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# Michigan History Magazine

VOLUME I

JULY, 1917

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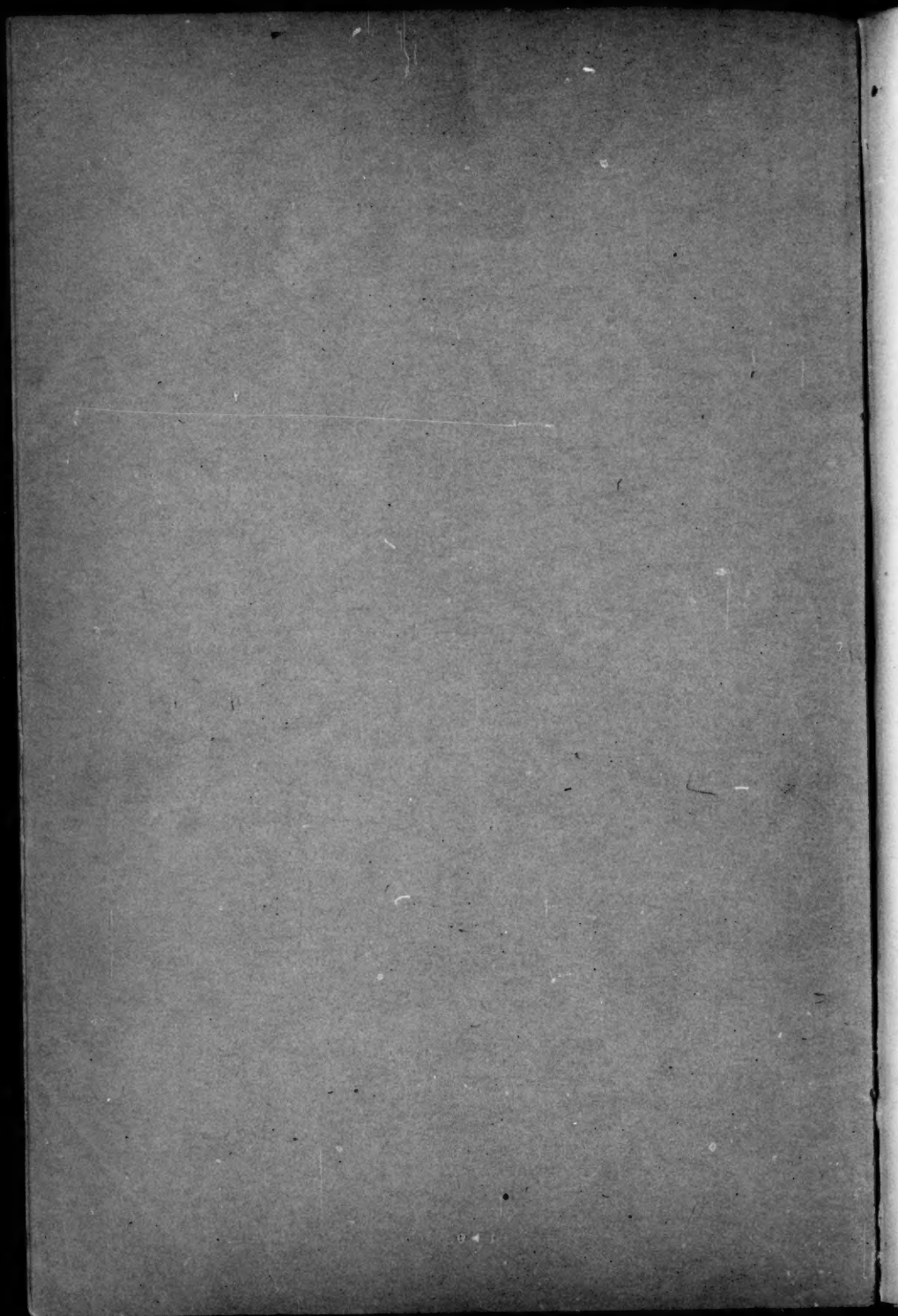
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A STATE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHIVES ORGANIZED  
MAY 28, 1913

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## MICHIGAN PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1874; SUCCESSOR TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF  
MICHIGAN FOUNDED IN 1828 BY LEWIS CASS AND OTHERS

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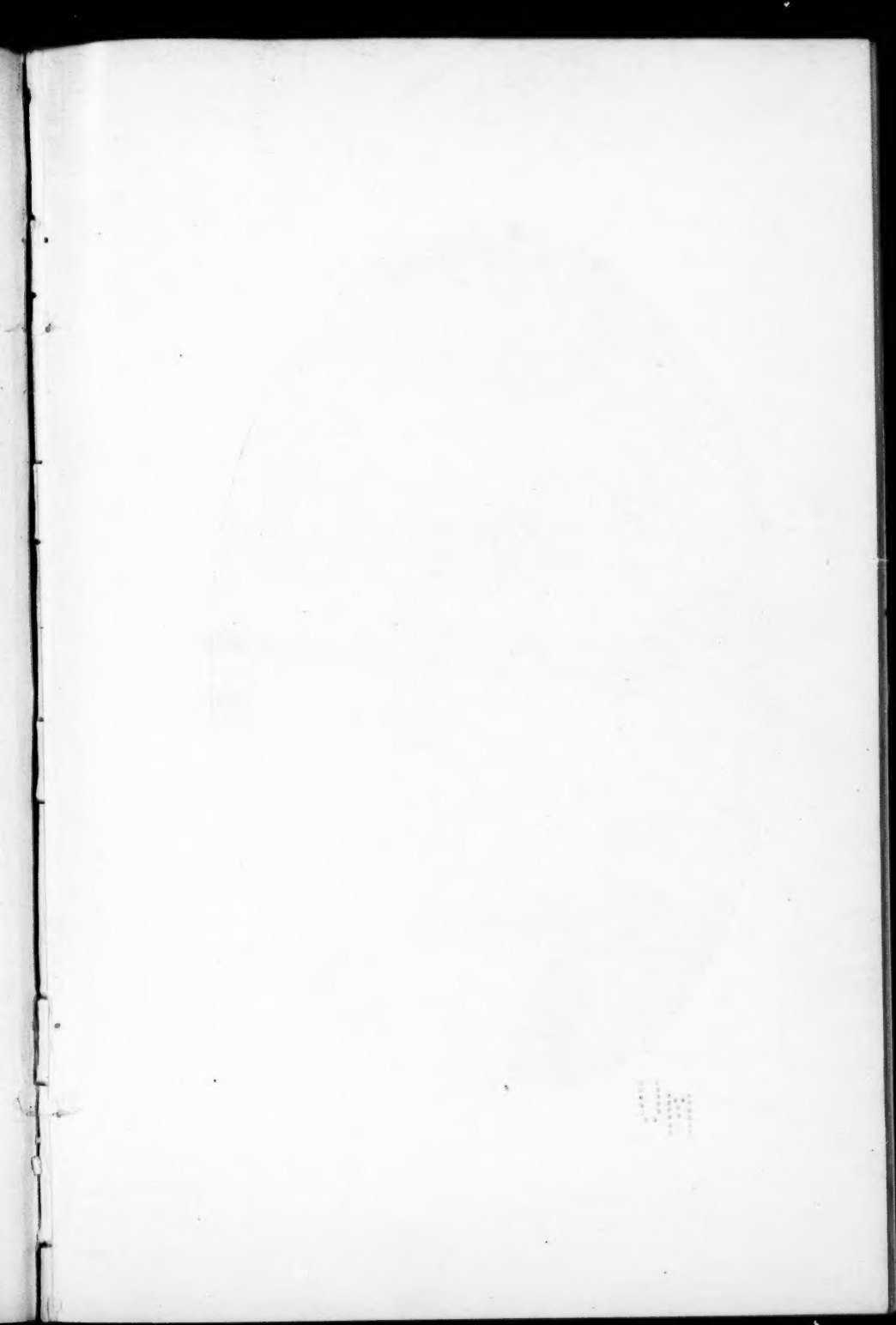
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JUDGE ISAAC MARSTON

From the oil portrait in the State Capitol.

## A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF JUDGE ISAAC MARSTON

BY WILLIAM L. CLEMENTS, B. S.

BAY CITY

CARLYLE defines one life as "a little gleam of time between two Eternities" and the work of myriads of lives as history.

There are innumerable biographies of human beings, and yet of those whose names are written in all history, in literature, arts or sciences or mere mention by epitaph, all are infinitesimal compared to the countless millions who have passed through life enduring and struggling, all of which if faithfully recorded, would be of interest to humanity.

Austin Dobson's lines—

"Time goes, you say? Ah, No,  
Alas! time stays; we go"

suggested to a great sculptor, "The Fountain of Time,"—a great throng of earnest, pushing figures passing in review before Father Time, each intently bent upon reaching his goal. If in this conception of humanity and time and the countless millions in review, Carlyle's question were asked of each at the end—"What then have you done?" the record of the uncounted millions would be, Life,

"full of sound and fury,  
signifying nothing."

And yet in recorded time, a speck appears here and there and an individual stands out in the review. He has done something out of the ordinary, affecting possibly the world's history, a nation's history, the literature of a language, developed a science or an art, and his work marks a new era. Such men are world characters; in our generation we know a few such men, and there are many others since the beginning of history. Can one estimate the influence upon civilization of the work of Caesar, Charlemagne, Columbus, Napoleon or Washington; or in literature

and science, of Shakespeare, Goethe, or Newton? Such men belong to the world's history. In our own national life, the work and influence of Jefferson, the Adamases, Webster, Clay, Seward and Lincoln are its political history, and the productions of Hawthorne, Emerson, Whittier and Irving are the beginning of its literary history.

If we continue in our examination and citation of men whose lives and work have been powerful influences for good politically, morally, scientifically, or in many ways in our individual states and in local communities, our list grows large; but it is still infinitesimal as compared to the ceaseless roll of humanity ever coming and going, and if any man belong in such a list, surely it is high honor, an exception among the thousands, and his work and influence deserve a permanent recording. It is well, therefore, that in our nation and in the states, the work of recording worthily the lives and influence of such men, be done by the various historical organizations—in this State, by the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society.

At this time it is nearly twenty-five years since the man Isaac Marston, about whom I am to speak, departed this life, and yet throughout the State of Michigan, and to a marked extent in the communities in which he lived, his name and his work are still of frequent mention and always with elevating influence. Within the memory of many of you, he and his associates lived; and I cannot refrain from recalling to your memory several of these remarkable men—remarkable, not only for their learning in law, but also for their other great abilities, whose influence has been felt ever since by many men of Michigan. The legal opinions of Thomas M. Cooley, James V. Campbell, Benjamin F. Graves and Isaac Christiancy, are legal treatises and of great educational value. As members of the Supreme Court of this State they created throughout the country the greatest respect for our Michigan Reports, and their work is monumental at this time.

Isaac Marston, was born in the year 1840 at Pointz Pass, in the County of Armagh, Northern Ireland. His father, Thomas Marston, was an Englishman and he belonged to the aristocratic classes. Little is known of him or his family, but without doubt

the historic battlefield of Marston-Moor, near York, belonged to his family. In Thomas Marston's family were two children, a girl and the boy Isaac. The family were members of the Church of England. When the son, Isaac, was two years old his father died and the family were left in poor circumstances. Isaac attended school and later worked in a store. At the age of sixteen years he came to Southfield, near Pontiac, Michigan, where he had an uncle, and where he lived with his uncle's family, working summers and attending school in winter until he was nineteen, or in 1859, when he entered the Law Department of the University of Michigan. Two years he spent in study at Ann Arbor, and graduated in the class of 1861, the second class to go out from the Department. Undecided where to locate, he first went to Alma—then an agricultural village, where litigation did not thrive—and a little later to Ithaca, Gratiot County, where he practiced law until 1862.

In these early days of his career, there was begun an acquaintance and relation which lasted throughout his life, with Judge Thomas M. Cooley. Judge Cooley, with Judges James V. Campbell and Charles I. Walker, during these times was Professor of Law in the University of Michigan, and a little later, in 1864, became one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State. I cannot do better than repeat Judge Cooley's remarks relative to Marston at this time: "He came to me still a boy, not yet having reached the age of twenty-one, to express his desire to enter upon the study of law. A little inquiry showed to me that he was without the usual attainments that are deemed necessary before that study is entered upon. His education was slight; he had been a grocer's apprentice in a distant land. He had come from that land without the means of support, and landing in this country he was glad to accept the position of "hired man," as we express it, upon a farm. He had worked there for a time, but only while he was determining in his own mind what he would take up as his business in life; when he had decided to study law, he came to the University, but he came without means of living there, and, what would have appeared singular in most men, he seemed to be without a perception of the fact that want of the

pecuniary means constituted serious impediment to a man who was about to start out in life. To him it only presented a state of facts that might render necessary unusual and more persistent efforts than must be made by others who by birth or otherwise were differently circumstanced, but he took it as a matter of course that he was to make all necessary effort and that in some way he would find work, however undesirable in itself, whereby he might pay his way through the University. It never occurred to him that with sufficient willingness he could fail in this; and with the aid of those he met there, who saw in his face the proofs of energy and work, he happily did not fail. In the meantime he was perfectly willing to submit to such deprivations as would naturally come in his way and to live in the simplest and least expensive manner. In short, he saw something ahead he was to attain and he proceeded at once to put aside such obstacles as stood in his way, without apparently a thought or a suspicion that there was a possibility he might not succeed, nor did those who learned to know him at the University feel that failure would be his lot. They noticed his earnestness, they learned how quick were his perceptions, how soon he mastered legal principles and how readily he made friends and the prophecies for him were an honorable if not a high career."

At this time Judge James V. Campbell, who was also his preceptor in the Law Department of the University, said of Marston, "I was in the habit of seeing him constantly and was very much struck at that time, not only with his diligence in habits, but also with his great intelligence and studiousness."

I pause here, for these words of Judge Cooley about Marston mean much to one who knew him. It was my fortune in life for a period of twenty years to be intimate with a member of the Cooley family and during this time to see much and feel the influence of Judge Cooley. In his early life he himself, a poor boy, struggled for the means whereby to live and secure an education; work and perseverance were self-drilled into every fibre of his body and it is no wonder indeed that he, with his sympathetic nature, took an interest in young Marston. It has been said that Judge Cooley was always his best friend. Those early words of

encouragement to Marston were then and afterwards what he needed in combination with his abilities and perseverance. In those early days Judge Cooley was preparing himself for the more important work he later was to do. It was self-education with him, and his keen appreciation of ability and sympathy for earnestness in work ever continued active.

I make the statement that no Department of the University of Michigan has so many students whose work at the University and afterward has been so influenced by any man as by Judge Cooley in the Department of Law. His dignity, his reserve, his unprejudiced, kindly advice, his keen interest in earnest effort, but above all, the example of himself as an indefatigable worker, may be familiar to many of you. At a period some little time later he might be seen daily during the early morning with a basket of books making his way to his office in the Law Building for work, to return again with the same basket late in the afternoon; nor did this finish his day's work. As a neighbor and occupant of a room overlooking Judge Cooley's study, and sometimes a midnight wanderer from the Campus, to me his study light would show him in relief, and the everlasting movement of his pen. Sunday afternoons in the summer days of about 1875 are remembered by me for their long rides with the Cooley family into the country and then into the woods, and for the figure of Judge Cooley in profound meditation.

Young Marston with such influence and example and with law books to the value of one hundred dollars, supplied him by Judge Cooley after graduation, went first, as has been stated, to Alma, and then to Ithaca. Here he was married to Miss Emily Sullivan. The hardship of his internment in these two villages was undoubtedly great; from the peaceful nature of the communities, pecuniary success was impossible, but his greatest loss was the destruction by fire of the books furnished him by Judge Cooley. In Ithaca, the county seat of Gratiot County, he met Judge James Birney, of Bay City, at a term of court. Judge Birney was then a lawyer of prominence in his community and was later Minister to The Hague. He quickly appreciated the abilities of young Marston and advised, with success, his making

Bay City his home; and so in the early summer of 1862 Mr. and Mrs. Marston arrived in Bay City. Mr. Marston had received in the meantime a small sum of money from his mother, from which he remunerated Judge Cooley for the books furnished him, and with the small remaining balance he built a cottage in Bay City. ●

Looking backward from this time when his real start in life began, we are impressed by his earnest effort in self-education and his ambition to put into practical use the legal knowledge he had gleaned at Ann Arbor. In our own day, education is more frequently than not, handed to us, with entreaties to receive it. There are but rare instances today where boys or girls who earnestly desire an education cannot secure it. The fellowships, scholarships, and other funds available for needy students in our schools, colleges, and in the most generous degree in our own University, were then unknown. Much good has been done by them, in particular by the borrowing funds where the student must return to the fund the amount he receives. A fund of this kind available for such a student as Marston would have fulfilled its best use; but, as he had the perseverance, there was no training for him so effective as serious obstacles to overcome in the pathway of life, exceeding in value the mental discipline of the study of Greek; or in mathematics, of Sturm's theorem, or Des Cartes' solution of bi-quadratics. Strong character thus built is of inestimable value, much greater than learning.

The great period of Michigan's lumbering days may have been from 1862 to 1880. During these years was begun and carried to consummation, without regard to conservation or the rights of future generations, the destruction of Michigan's white-pine forests. Saginaw Valley was the focal center of Eastern Michigan in this destruction; Saginaw River the confluent stream through which logs passed to the mills. Along the river, mills were then in course of erection; commerce and population were increasing, which a little later were to make Saginaw and Bay City the busiest communities in the State, and to put an accelerated activity into twenty years which with today's advanced



ideas of conservation should have been spread over a century.  
*And such waste!*

In the summer of 1862, when Marston came to Bay City, legal controversy was rife, but competition was keen. There were several experienced attorneys there. He opened his office, but during the first four months only five dollars in money was received. The next four years, however, owing to services rendered the alien laborers from Canada, many of whom were drafted in President Lincoln's call for men to serve in the Civil War, were very profitable for him, and he then really received his first pecuniary reward. In the spring of 1863, Hershel H. Hatch, a man of ability, about his own age, came to Bay City, and a partnership was formed between them. Hatch thus describes his meeting with Marston: "In March, 1863, I emigrated from the State of New York and came to the Saginaw Valley. I applied for admission to the Bar of Bay County; Judge Birney was then on the Bench. I passed my examinations and the Committee reported favorably. I was introduced to two or three of the lawyers that were present. As I turned to go out of the courtroom, being an entire stranger, a young, spare-bodied man with a pale face approached me and asked me if I didn't want to go into partnership with him. He said he had been a resident of Bay City for about eight months. He grasped me cordially by the hand and invited me to his office. That man was Isaac Marston. We continued to be partners until the year 1868. At this time he entertained the plan of removing from Bay City and locating in one of the southern States, thinking it needful that he should live in a warmer climate, for even then he began to be affected with lung difficulty. The partnership was dissolved, but after the dissolution he changed his plans and remained in Bay City. We practiced law separately two years, however, and in 1870 we again came together and once more re-organized the old partnership. In 1872 Mr. Edgar A. Cooley was taken into the firm and the firm name became Marston, Hatch and Cooley." This association was fortunate for all members. Bay City was rapidly growing in population and business, and as

diligence and fidelity were characteristics of all three members they soon had an excellent business and retainers came to them from considerable distances.

Marston's forceful character and abilities forced themselves upon all who knew him, and early in his career as a practicing Bay City attorney he began to attract attention. A brief of his first important case was submitted by him to Judge C. I. Walker, of Detroit, and of this Judge Walker said, "It was remarkable. I had never conferred with a lawyer from the country who came so well prepared." This brief was afterwards highly spoken of by the Judges of the Supreme Court.

He was always interested and active in politics and his reputation for fearlessness and honesty of purpose was brought to the attention of the people of Michigan in the famous Driggs fight of 1870. His associate, Mr. H. H. Hatch gives this account of it: "The Honorable J. G. Sutherland was nominated for the office of Representative in Congress by the Democratic party and the Honorable John F. Driggs, of Saginaw, was nominated by the Republican party. Marston had always been a Republican, but upon this occasion he opposed the nomination of the Republican party. He was very active in the campaign. He opposed the nomination of Driggs in the Republican convention, he took the responsibility of sitting in judgment upon the nominee of the convention, refusing to be bound by the action of the convention if it did not meet his approval. That was the time when he acquired the title of the "Boy from Bay." He was bitterly denounced by the old-line Republican politicians and newspapers, but he heeded not this opposition; he fought the contest with marvelous energy, and perhaps no man contributed so much to the result as did Isaac Marston. This gave him a reputation in politics, and from that time on he was an active politician. The result of the contest was the election of Sutherland and the defeat of Driggs."

A period of twenty years, from 1862 until 1882, was spent with his home in Bay City, but much of his time in Lansing. He first acted for a time as Justice of the Peace; for one session, 1872, he was a representative in the State Legislature, where he

met and became a friend of Governor Bagley; for a term, in 1866, he held the office of Prosecuting Attorney for the county, and in 1868 he was re-elected for a second term; finally, a vacancy occurring in the office of Attorney General of the State, in 1874, upon invitation from Governor Bagley he accepted the position. Governor Bagley was one of Michigan's ablest executives, picking out efficient men for office, frequently irrespective of party, wherever they were to be found. This appointment was very complimentary to the abilities of Mr. Marston. As a further honor from the Governor, when Judge Christiancy resigned from the Supreme Court in 1875 to take his seat in the United States Senate upon the defeat of Zachariah Chandler—which was one of the strangest occurrences in Michigan history—Mr. Marston was appointed to fill Judge Christiancy's unexpired term. Mr. Marston was nominated and elected by the Republicans in 1875 to succeed Judge Christiancy and in 1881 he was elected to succeed himself; and as if in universal recognition of his fitness and abilities, no canvass was deemed by his friends necessary. Judge Marston had now reached the highest position in the Judicial Department of Michigan, an associate with Judges Cooley, Campbell and Graves; and I cannot do better than to repeat Judge Cooley's remarks upon this occurrence:

"Two of these men had been his preceptors at Ann Arbor. All of them knew him well as a lawyer and were well pleased with the selection. They knew that they were to expect in him an industrious and painstaking associate and that the manner in which he would discharge his judicial duties would be alike honorable to himself and useful to the public.

"I might stop to enumerate, one by one, the qualities which I think eminently fitted him for the place. His character was entirely above reproach; his integrity was unquestionable; his mind was judicial in the highest degree; he was as free as any man with whom it has been my fortune to be acquainted from anything in the nature of prejudice, or of such partisanship as could in the least degree raise any question as to the possibility of partiality or dislike swaying his judgment, and nobody raised any question of his eminent fitness for the place in this regard,

or even suspected that he could be swerved one way or the other by political, social or personal affiliations.

"In his judicial decisions, he always addressed himself to the very point in issue, caring very little for the graces of language, and not apparently seeming to think them important. He was on the Bench to do what was right, to apply the law directly to such cases as came before him, and he used such language as would, in his opinion, be understood, and instead of leading anyone into confusion, would furnish a useful precedent in future cases."

A full appreciation of him as a judge and lawyer must come from a blending of remarks, each written by men who knew him in a particular phase of his life. Justice Charles D. Long said of him: "His opinions are filled with that careful thought and study and are written with the same vigor which were manifest in his practice at the Bar. He always spoke to the point in controversy and he always wrote to the point, without any of that circumlocution which characterizes so many judicial writers."

Of his legal opinions again Judge Cooley said: "They were notable for brevity and clearness and for an evident purpose to make them express concisely the exact idea he had in mind. Elegance of diction he apparently did not care for and certainly did not attempt."

Judge Marston remained upon the Supreme Bench in Michigan a little less than eight years. In 1883 he resigned his position and decided to enter actively into the practice of law; and with this in view, he removed his family from Bay City to Detroit. From this time until within a few months of his death he was there engaged in the work of his profession. His closest association, although no partnership existed, was first with the late Colonel John Atkinson and later with Mr. Israel T. Cowles. His last work was done through the association of Marston, Cowles and Jerome.

The reasons for Judge Marston's retirement from the Bench were undoubtedly diverse. It has been said that his failing health was more manifest to himself than to others, and that the more active life of a practicing lawyer was more congenial

to him. His assurance of a very remunerative practice in Detroit, and possibly the feeling that his career would not be a long one and a desire to leave his family in a position of comfort, doubtless had much to do with this decision. He did not resign, however, until through the opinions which he wrote as a member of the Supreme Court, he had established his reputation as a learned lawyer. It is indeed a career much out of the ordinary that a man advance from a poor boy struggling for an education, to the highest judicial position in the State, all within a period of fifteen years. He was the youngest man, at that time, ever elected to the Supreme Court of Michigan. *There* was fulfilled ambition, and yet the right kind of ambition. No doubt he was encouraged and gratified in the steps of his advancement, yet all this gratification was surpassed by his love of home, wife and family; his gratification was for their gratification.

Much might be written of his career as a practicing lawyer during his residence in Detroit. He had made a reputation and his practice there was large and remunerative; and the Michigan Reports covering this period will show that he was engaged in very many important litigations. His abilities and temperament qualified him as well to play the part of an Advocate as of a Judge. His excellent judgment, in business matters, was shown in the settlement of the Nestor estate, which though extensive, was very seriously involved. Through his judicious guidance, involving much work, all debts were paid and a substantial sum passed to the heirs.

His associate at the Detroit Bar, Mr. Henry M. Duffield, spoke thus of him: "As a Lawyer he was the peer of any. Fearless and honorable to a high degree, he added to his abilities the weight of those attributes and was an antagonist in trial courts whom no good lawyer met with undue confidence. His services upon the Bench are shown in his clear, lucid and forcible opinions."

His last associate in the practice of law, Mr. Israel Towne Cowles, speaks thus of him: "He was a born lawyer. His analyses and reductions to fundamental laws in cases where

precedent and similar cases could not be found, showed him to be a great lawyer."

I have repeated the words of his associates relative to his professional work, but my sketch of him would be still incomplete did I not mention his other qualities. At the University he was a favorite with his fellow students, for he was of a cheerful and buoyant disposition and as companionable as he was attentive to his studies; and the fact that his means compelled rigid economy did not lessen this respect. Beginning early, all who knew Marston learned to trust him, and he was honest in every act of his life; fraud and sham he detested, and he would fight to expose them, as he did in the Driggs case. He was most generous, and his kindness of heart made him a colleague and associate whom to know was at the same time to love. He was endowed by nature with great common-sense and his love of humor was great. With a keen sense of right, he would not take a case in which he was convinced his client was wrong, but would advise a settlement.

It is related by his partner, Mr. Cowles, as an episode illustrating Mr. Marston's sense of honesty, that in the course of their prosecution of a case against a certain wealthy but unscrupulous Detroit citizen, they were visited one day by him with a tender of a large sum of money for a cessation of prosecution for his iniquitous practices. Marston and Cowles were located in one of the old Detroit office buildings without elevators and with the steps, often counted by the tenants, to the number of one hundred twenty-seven from the ground. The "intent on settlement" gentlemen first interviewed Mr. Cowles within the hearing of Mr. Marston; he was told by Mr. Cowles that he was one hundred and twenty-seven steps above the street and that he would be given two seconds to make the descent. Forthwith he disappeared with Marston appearing, exclaiming: "Cowles, you made a mistake in giving him two seconds!"

Another marked trait of character possessed by Mr. Marston was his ability to attach other people to himself. Mr. Hatch said of him: "I think the man had hardly an enemy on earth, but he had a troop of friends. He had a cordial and hearty



manner; no other man whom you would meet would grasp you so vigorously by the hand."

As a husband and father, he was indulgent and kind. His wife and four children—three sons and one daughter—and their friends, who were many times welcome visitors to the ever hospitable Marston home, attest his lovable disposition.

In appearance Judge Marston was a little more than average height and below average weight. In walking, his gait was rather shambling, and his head was held closely between his contracted shoulders. His hair was light, combed closely back, and he wore a long thin moustache; his features were well defined and his voice of high pitch, but pleasing. He is remembered by many in the usual unbuttoned frock coat of his day, low collar and long string tie, and in his characteristic attitude of leaning forward in his chair, his legs crossed, with his elbows upon the arms, speaking intently; and in speaking he always commanded attention.

I have followed briefly the career of Judge Isaac Marston to the time in August, 1891, when from Detroit he returned to Bay City, there to live upon his farm along the banks of the Kawkawlin River, there to be relieved of confining work. He had fitted "Riverside" as he would have it; and there, afflicted with a malady the rapid fatality of which no one knew better than he, he returned to linger until the 31st of October, Sunday, at midnight, when he died, cut off as he was at the age of fifty-two years. His funeral occurred the following Wednesday, attended by many of his friends from Detroit and Bay City.

And so the curtain drops, and Isaac Marston has ended his career. He early answered to his call. To that sharp question Carlyle asked, "What then have you done?" we may answer for him: A not inconsiderable amount of legal writing of merit, but above all, an example of industry in applying to their best use, though obstacles were many, all the abilities given him, with wonderful earnestness of purpose, ever taking advantage of opportunity offered; throughout all, sterling honesty and hatred of all shams, a fighter for the right, altogether making up a character stimulating those about him and those to come after him who may read of what he did.



## THE FIELD FOR THE HISTORIAN IN THE UPPER PENINSULA

BY THE VERY REV. F. X. BARTH, M. A., LL. D.<sup>1</sup>

ESCANABA

MR. CHAIRMAN, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am sorry to begin my discourse this evening with anything that might savor of an apology. The truth is, for several months past I have been so ill as to have been unable to make the preparation for this occasion which its importance merits, or even to fulfill wholly the ordinary routine of my duties. You will, I therefore trust, pardon me for venturing to come among you without a carefully organized paper, such as the dignity of this society demands. I must trust to the fullness of my love for this subject, and to my love for the Upper Peninsula, to convey to you a few of the most essential thoughts about the Peninsula's necessities, in so far as the work of this society is concerned.

Without further preliminary I would observe first, that the subject matter of history, in its broadest application, is everything that suffers change owing to its existence in time and space; more particularly, however, it is the genetical or natural development of facts, events, situations, that history contemplates. Man, as a social being, is the proper subject of historical study, since the external changes of his life affect closely his intellectual interests. Objectively speaking, history is the genetical development of the human mind, and of human life itself in its various aspects as it comes before us in a series of facts, whether these pertain to individuals or to the whole human race, or to any of its various groups. Viewed subjectively, history is the apperception and description of this development, and in the

<sup>1</sup>Dean of Escanaba, and President of the Delta County Pioneer and Historical Society. An address delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, May 25, 1916. (Stenographically reported)

scientific sense the comprehension of the same set forth in a systematic and methodical manner.

It is perhaps trite for me to observe, before members of this Society, that much of the history of the world, from time to time, has to be rewritten. Not only are new records added to historical sources, not only do the so-called "facts" of history take on new meanings in the light of subsequent events, but the point of view from which the past is observed changes with the ever-changing social order. Much of the history of the world has, in our day, to be rewritten because of the transcendent importance of the economic factor in life—a presentation of history, which, by the great historians of the past, was woefully neglected. We find even so great a man as Gibbon explaining great national disasters by relatively trivial causes; he tells us, for instance, that the fall of the Roman Empire was due largely to the fact that grain could be sent cheaper into Rome than it could be raised there. He did not understand—the whole intellectual outlook of his day did not permit him to understand—that when the wealth of a nation is concentrated in the hands of a few individuals, that nation must perish.

Now, when we come to contemplate history, the development of man in society, all perceive that it has a two-fold aspect; and this two-fold aspect which charms and absorbs the mind, is first, that of mankind as a group, and secondly, that of man as a unit in the group. We look back upon the history of the world, a series of events bearing upon the destiny of humanity; or we contemplate the organized groups of mankind—their origin, their growth, their development, their decline, their decay, and finally their disintegration, we are absorbed in the fascinating story. We love to contemplate the birth and development of peoples, their groping toward liberty and self-government, their struggles against the oppressions of the few, their failures, and their triumphs. We contemplate with wonder and admiration the struggles of our own colonies against the tyranny of a government across the sea, and their gradual unfolding into the glorious freedom we now enjoy. In this development each State of the Union has done its part nobly, and it is the duty of each State to

preserve the records of its accomplishment. Our own State of Michigan, through this Society, and the State Historical Commission, (these acting as centers from which help and inspiration are offered to all their auxilliary societies in the counties of the State) are striving to collect the materials for our history. It is a laudable purpose, for this Society has for its object, not so much to write history—it is not yet time to write the history of Michigan—but to collect data; to gather up, not only the rich stores in the memories of men, but the written and printed records of all sorts and kinds, "*NE FRAGMENTA PEREANT*," lest these precious fragments perish.

The second aspect of history, to some more charming than the first, is the part accomplished by individuals. I observe that this Society has in its name not only the word "Historical," but the word "Pioneer." In Old French, the "Pionnier," was a foot soldier. In the Military he is still one of the soldiers, we are told, especially of an engineer corps, detailed to remove obstructions, form roads, dig trenches, and make bridges." Now, captivating as is the history of a people and its institutions, more interesting to many are the lives of individuals, especially those who go on before to make ready the way for others. To study the lives of those who labored, sacrificed, and suffered, to build a commonwealth, even though they were but humble instruments, is inspiring. Forced by unfavorable economic conditions to abandon their native land which they loved, they arrived in America to build their new home; and the study of their efforts to adjust themselves to their strange environment, and the story of their trials, sacrifices, and sufferings, in the up-building of a new society, is a purpose noble indeed, for this Society, and constitutes, to my humble way of thinking, the greatest human charm in historical pursuits.

The History of Michigan, such as shall be later on scientifically written, cannot be a satisfactory history of the State until we shall have completed the records of all of its parts; and consequently, in collecting historical data, no part of the commonwealth of Michigan may be neglected. No county is so unimportant, no township is so remote and undeveloped, that the leaders of this

movement can afford to neglect it or pass it by. What would be your judgment of a man who every day should exercise his right arm, but should tie up his left arm and carry it in a sling, and allow it to atrophy? And yet, if I may speak the truth bluntly, this is exactly what has been done in past years by the research workers in Michigan's history. In the Lower Peninsula, figuratively speaking—the right arm—the data that will constitute the foundation for the future scholarly history of Michigan have been fairly well cared for; but in the left arm of the State, in the Upper Peninsula, that great and mighty empire that lies to the north, so rich in archaeological and ethnological remains, so interesting in romance, such a treasure-house of memories of the early missionaries and explorers of Michigan, so grandly human in the lives of its sturdy pioneers, as noble and as self-sacrificing a body of men and women as ever braved the dangers and hardships of a primitive wilderness; this peninsular empire of great economic importance, as regards the development of mines, forests, soil, lake commerce, railroads, cities, press, schools, and churches—this field, richer still in potential interest to the historian, has to the present moment been utterly neglected.

I must narrate to you, in order to give this matter a personal touch, how it was that I came to be interested in the Commission of Historical Research in the State of Michigan. We have in the Upper Peninsula several real deserted villages, which years ago, when I was a small lad in Delta County, were miniature commercial centers, where activities in the manufacture of pig-iron were carried on. Economic conditions brought these mills, factories, and furnaces into being, around which these villages grew up; but today, nothing remains, except the dismantled walls, perhaps a half deserted church, or the ruins of the houses in which the laboring people used to dwell. The first time I had the honor to be invited to speak before this Society, I thought from the romantic standpoint, it would be entertaining to write about the rise and fall of the deserted village of Fayette, delightfully situated on Big Bay De Noquet. I will show you how romance faded away in the presence of a startling revelation, which is typical, with but few exceptions, of our whole Peninsula

I went one day to the County Courthouse to look up some data about this village, and I was told by one of the officials, who is himself an old pioneer in Delta County, that there are no data available for historical purposes preserved in the archives of Delta County. Now this is an astounding thing to one who has grown up in the county, and who loves the soil upon which he was born. My curiosity being fully aroused, I was impelled to look further, but I found no records of the organization of Delta County, none of its growth and development, none of the thirteen townships that constitute its parts, not even a memory recorded of a single activity in all the years that Delta County has formed an important center in the Northern Peninsula. These necessary data are either destroyed, or hidden away in the memories of the living pioneers, or lie undiscovered in garrets or cellars. My interest in this situation increased. I made inquiries to find out if other counties in the Upper Peninsula are situated similarly; and I discovered only woeful neglect everywhere, that will require a large expenditure of money and energy to repair even inadequately. I further discovered that there is but one Historical Society, and that a small one, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Quite naturally, I set aside for the time being, the prosecution of any romantic inquiry in our county, in order to face the hard facts squarely, and to interest our people in the formation of a County Historical Society, that should act in conjunction with and under the inspiration of the State Society. I am very glad, and very grateful, to be able to testify before you tonight, that our work in Delta County has been inaugurated auspiciously. We have started a Delta County Historical Society with seventy members. We will of necessity, have to hold back just a little until the heat of the summer is over, and then, I have every reason to believe, the work will receive an enthusiastic encouragement from the people of Delta.

In forming this Society we are fortified by the hope that activities once begun in Delta County may become an example to surrounding counties of the Upper Peninsula, thus arousing the attention of the State Society and the State Historical Commission to the Northern Peninsula's predicament, its great danger

of losing even the memories of its rich historical inheritance. By virtue of the initiative in Delta County we also hope the officers of the State Commission will decide, in the near future, to go to our country across the Straits, hold a session, speak to our people as an established authority behind the local society, thus helping to arouse the citizens of the Upper Peninsula to a realization of the lamentable condition of their historical records, and to teach them that never can the early history of our Peninsula be justly written until research work, and research work of a thorough and scholarly kind, be done there, such as is being done so successfully with honor and profit, in the Lower Peninsula.

Our hope is not in vain, for already word comes from the County of Dickinson that measures have been taken to form a Society there; also from Menominee Mr. A. L. Sawyer, whom you have just honored as Vice-President of this Society, informs me that another Society will be started in Menominee County, and should the State Society decide to hold its meeting in the Upper Peninsula in the month of October, the completion of its organization can then be announced. By that time historical research work will have been undertaken in earnest, and when the State Historical Commission shall hold its first session in the Upper Peninsula, it will mark an epoch in historical research in the State of Michigan.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the State Society, I understand very well the limitations of a discourse such as this. I must not take up much more of your time, but allow me just a few moments, out of the fullness of my love for my own native district, and as a representative of Delta County, to show you what your Society may accomplish, not only for Delta, but for all the counties of the State. First of all, let us consider Delta's necessities concretely, and argue that the necessity is the same for the other counties, and then you may form some adequate conception of the Peninsula's dire predicament. I know that the purpose of this Society is not primarily to write history. Several well-laid plans for compiling history have been made, and some histories have been written. It is probable that their chief value lies in the paucity of historical materials they revealed to those who under-



took to write them. The records which they desired, which indeed were indispensable, were not to be found. Some work has been done on the Lower Peninsula which has much merit; but, on the whole, it is not yet time to write the history of Michigan. We are the pioneers, we must prepare the way. We must hunt in out-of-the-way places, in all places, for the records, from which alone any true and comprehensive history may be written. At least two noteworthy attempts have been made in the Upper Peninsula, that of Mr. Sawyer of Menominee, whose *History of the Upper Peninsula* is well known, and that of Dr. Rézek, of Houghton, whose *History of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie and Marquette*, is almost equally well known; in the latter case Dr. Rézek spent his own money, and sacrificed his own time, to search out the fragments and bring them together for his work. Judge Steere, of Sault Ste. Marie, has written upon the Indian missionary activities around the Soo. All of these men found practically nothing at hand from which to construct history, and the greater part of their time was spent in the quest for materials. This ought not to be. The research work necessary for a complete history involves too great a labor for any one man. It must be done collectively, by each helping a little, and to this end it is needful that in every county a historical society should be established, whose primary function is to collect and preserve the records of the community's life.

What we wish to have is organized, systematic, and scientific research. The great word now is "Efficiency." We require, under the direction of the State Society (for we know that we ourselves, as laymen in historical work, are not competent), trained advisors, and helpers skilled in these matters, to set on foot a practical, wide-reaching and scholarly program of research for historical data, bearing upon every phase of the life of the Upper Peninsula. Let us get out of our minds the idea of writing history just now. Do you know that the best history of the Roman Empire is being written only today? Do you know that the best history of the Renaissance has been only lately published, and that an adequate history of the Middle Ages has not yet been completed? When Leo XIII that magnificent



world genius, decreed to open to scholars the archives of the Vatican, then, and only then, could be written a satisfactory history of that great period of the world, out of which were to rise the modern states of Europe. Leo XIII intended by this action to make the Vatican Library the focus of European scholarship. No collection of ancient manuscripts can compare with that of the Vatican; and its archives have a value which can hardly be exaggerated as materials for the history of the Middle Ages. Pope Leo determined to place both the manuscripts and the archives at the disposal of scholars. Some squeamish dignitary and over zealous advisor remonstrated, saying: "May not some hidden secret come to light that had better remain buried?" Whereupon the masterful Leo is said to have answered: "Let the truth be known, and let the truth take us where it will." Behold, my friends, the genius that must preside over the making of history—Truth. Let our research work, then, under the guidance of Truth, begin at once. We must give our time and sacrifice ourselves, for this work is a labor and sacrifice of love. It is the essence of patriotism to gather together the fragments of history of our Michigan, against the day in the future when the historian shall ask of her: "And what then have you done?"

Permit me to illustrate why this society should hasten to begin historical research work in the Upper Peninsula. In the last twenty years, to my own knowledge, we have permitted ten Indian Missionaries whose lives touched the days of the immortal Baraga—some of whom wrote and spoke the Indian dialects—to die, leaving behind them scarcely one written word. These men have passed away, and their wonderful and intimate knowledge of pioneer days has gone with them. There remains today in the whole Upper Peninsula of Michigan, but one man—Rt. Rev. Frederick Eis, the present Bishop of Marquette—who has inherited and possesses the memories of those early times; one Jesuit Father who speaks the Indian dialects, and who for thirty years has made himself as one of these poor children of a gone-by age, that he might teach them Christianity and civilization; who has taught them to sing songs to the music of our rivers, who travels night and day, and yields to no sense of corporal or

mental fatigue, who loves the Indians as his own children, and who alone, of a mighty band that is gone, is the only living link between the present and the immortal past.

Great surprises are in store for the citizens of the Upper Peninsula when this work shall have got under way. Since we started in Delta County, which is only a few days past, I have received seven volumes of written memoirs, kept as a diary by the Government Agent, Mr. Brotherton, who surveyed the old mail routes in the Upper Peninsula. Not only is it a valuable addition to knowledge upon the subject with which it deals directly, recording the old-time mail routes and their history, but the author tells about the wild life there in the early days, about the rivers and the romantic history of our wonderful waters. He writes so interestingly why it is the deer thrive in the Upper Peninsula, which for size, beauty, quantity and quality, are unrivaled in North America—because of the invigorating climate, the succulence of our vegetation, and the purity of our waters; for the deer, like the Indian, loves pure water and romantic places. Will people say that history cannot properly take cognizance of such topics, that such things of human interest belong to other departments? Surely, I need not say before an assembly such as this, that everything is of interest to history that is indigenous to the soil, and which was used by our forefathers for their purposes in life.

Now, I may be an old fashioned person, but I do yearn, ladies and gentlemen, for the day when some system of education shall have been devised by which the youth may be taught to love and reverence the history of their native State and Country. We talk so much about "Preparedness"—and I am personally in sympathy with anything our great Government may do to strengthen the Army and Navy—but I look for another kind of "Preparedness," more vital, more far-reaching, more soul swaying—I look for real, genuine preparedness to arise from the love of country. I look for the love of country to be born like the child from the mother, out of the love of the soil of the local district; and the love of the native soil to be enhanced by the knowledge of local history. When this shall have been accom-

plished, behold a substantial ground-work of "Preparedness" for the National Government to work upon when the call to the American Citizen shall have been made to defend the soil of his native land. It is the absence of this genuine love of country, such as characterizes the Swiss mountaineer in his devotion to his Alpine home, that explains largely why it is that in this country today great masses of radical groups are working within our boundaries for a weaker Government, and that we can scarcely gather together enough men to capture a border bandit.

To infuse into the child the love of country, he must be taught to love the soil, and all its sacred memories. Now, if I were to take a grammar and place it in the hands of a child and say to him: "Learn those rules;" if I should fail at the same time to clothe those rules with any human interest; if I should fail to use means to inspire him with the beauty, symmetry, and eloquence of his native tongue; then, my friends, I should hand that grammar to the child in vain. If I hand a catechism to my little children, and command them to learn the formulas of religion by heart, and then take it up to hear their recitation and frown if they stumble over the technicalities of religion, and at the same time, if I fail to clothe those formulas with life and love, and bring before their gaze their gracious Redeemer without whose radiant presence these formularies have no meaning, I hand that catechism to my children in vain. If I hand a history to my little children, and I tell them to learn the facts and the generalizations, the number of soldiers killed and wounded, and how the army marched up the hill and then marched down again—if I fail to teach those little children to love the soil, not only of their native State, but of their native country, yes, even of their own yard, I teach history in vain. If I neglect to instill into their minds the sanctity of the soil, which is not only the cradle of their birth and the burial place of their bodies, but above all, the source of their sustenance compatible with their intrinsic dignity as men, I teach history in vain. If I forget to tell them the human meaning of the rivers which are the arteries of commerce in our county of Delta; if I fail to tell them of the wild life that once flourished on these banks; if I fail to arouse their love for the deeds of the

pioneers, their fathers, how they labored, how they suffered, how they went into the everlasting life through the pathway of tears and sorrow, that they, their children might live more abundantly, I teach history in vain. Therefore, my friends, I would point out that an efficient patriotism, the kind that leads men to die for their country, that is effective in a great crisis in peace as well as in war, is the kind that is based upon a history that appeals to the emotions as well as to the intellect, and one that is acquired by the teaching of our citizens from earliest youth to love the little district in which they live. Why is it that the Swiss love their mountain homes and would die for them? Why is it, that today they are intrenched on the hillsides of the Alps, and not even Germany has dared to invade them? It is because of the undying patriotism born of the mountains and their snow capped peaks; born of the valleys, and of the traditions of their fathers. Behold a preparedness, worthy object of the State Society, and of every one of its auxiliary branches!

Allow me to present another illustration. Let me gather a few children of Delta—and they will be children typical of those in other counties—and ask them to name the rivers of Delta County. They go to school every day, thousands upon thousands of dollars are expended in their behalf. I try this little experiment: "Tell me, children, the names of the rivers of Delta County. Tell me something about the wild animal life that used to live here, of the Indians and the early settlers that lived along these streams." And of the older ones I ask: "Tell me something of the economic value of the rivers of Delta County." Now there are in Delta County the Escanaba, the Ford, the Whitefish, the Rapid, the Tacoosch, the Ogantz, and the Sturgeon rivers, and the value of the timber that has been borne down on these arteries of Delta County out into the markets of the world is so fabulous, that it goes, according to expert estimation, into billions of dollars. However, few of our children know anything of this, or of the varied phases of the history of the rivers right in our very midst. What I regret is, that the love of the child for the local spots, through a mental and a heart acquaintance with their history, is in some inexplicable manner lamentably neglected.

I forebear, ladies and gentlemen, to pursue further this very interesting subject. In conclusion I ask you to observe the banner above your heads and the words upon the escutcheon of Michigan recorded there: *Si Quaeris Peninsulan Amoenam, Circumspice*. "If thou seekest a beautiful Peninsula, look about thee." A sentiment true and wonderful. But unless we do more than admire and congratulate ourselves; unless we love this State, with our heart's love, and all that it contains—that little river, that little hill, that stretch of woods, that meadow lot, that little village, with all its history, where we were born, and where our fathers and mothers lived—unless we love these, how will you speak to me of a larger patriotism? The larger patriotism, that must rush out to defend the nation, is born from the home ties, from the soil where we lived and loved, and where all the little triumphs and tragedies of our lives took place.

Now, my friends, I ask you to extend the sentiment of this escutcheon, which to most of the Lower Peninsula people only means the Southern Peninsula (so at least we think in the North) to embrace the Cloverland of the North. Cross over the Straits, and there you will not find the wastes, the inhospitable, uncivilized district that the common fancy portrays; but you will find instead, a high degree of civilization, in many respects incomparable. You will find agriculture well under way, for the valleys of the Escanaba, and the Ford, in the county of Delta, are the most fertile in Michigan. You will behold well kept public highways, that by comparison with some of those of Lower Michigan, will make you blush with shame. You will find bustling cities, daily newspapers edited with great competency, mining and milling activities that are the marvel of the Republic; and crowning all, well equipped schools and churches, that are our pride and glory. If, therefore, you seek a beautiful, romantic, productive and historic Peninsula, look not alone below the Straits, but also above; better still, go across the Straits in October with your great Society, and join us in the inauguration of a new epoch in preserving the records of the industries and institutions, and of the great lives that have been lived there.

I have had great honor in speaking to you tonight. I have

come here with great pleasure,—yes, with more than pleasure, with love! because I love my native Delta more and more, and I know that out of that love springs my love for Michigan and my Nation. By this right, tonight, I stand before you, and with all the spirits of the pioneers, men and women of the noble past, I salute the majesty of our Commonwealth, our magnificent Peninsular home.

## THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES<sup>1</sup>

BY HON. WOODBRIDGE N. FERRIS, LL.D.

BIG RAPIDS

**M**R. CHAIRMAN, and Members of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society: After listening to this magnificent address by Father Barth, I find it exceedingly embarrassing to think of attempting anything like an adequate discussion of the theme that has been chosen for me. I shall always be inspired by the address that I have listened to. It has carried me back into the days of my own childhood's experience with learning history, and made keener the edge of one of my greatest regrets, that I had to pick up my early knowledge of history without guidance of the kind of which Father Barth has spoken. I suppose there are few men in Michigan, or in the United States, who as boys learned so little general history as your present speaker. But I was a lover of local history, and in an untaught way tried to find out all I could about things and people about me. I instinctively read biographies. The lives of great men had a charm for me. What history I know has come largely through biography, and if Emerson is right in what he says about history, then I have indirectly become exceedingly interested in this subject. I am hoping for great things in Michigan, both for the Upper Peninsula and for the Lower Peninsula, along these exceedingly important lines which you have heard so ably discussed by Father Barth.

Now I am to talk to you, informally, a very little while, on the subject that has been chosen for me, "The Spirit of the Times." I am very glad that the makers of this program did not presume that the present Governor of Michigan is a historian, or that he even knows any history; if they had made that mistake, it would have been fatal to me. I admit in the beginning that the his-

<sup>1</sup>An address delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Lansing, May 25, 1916. (Stenographically reported).



torian, or some other observer, would probably follow a trend of thought different from that which I shall follow; but I am obliged to follow my own trend, with what little information I may have, right or wrong. Fortunately for me, "The Spirit of the Times" does not compel me to go deeply into history; at least I shall not attempt to discuss the subject from what may be the historian's point of view.

The first thing I wish to call your attention to in relation to the spirit of the times is, the change that has come over us politically. Today, the spirit of the times asks you, and asks me, to keep everlastingly in mind, not so much a political organization, as men and policies; these two must ever go together—we can not get along with policies alone; we must have men and policies. This is true of the Nation, of the State, and of the City. I am glad to witness, in this political spirit of the times, the recognition of a truth which it is not necessary for me to dwell upon tonight; we have come to realize the importance, not only of men and policies; we have come to recognize the fact, that these men who have policies, have also sufficient independence today to speak frankly their minds as to the needs of our Nation.

Along with this independence, and as a necessary corollary of it, there has come the recognition of women. I was glad to hear Father Barth speak of the economic factor in history. Woman today is an important factor in our industrial and economic life. It does not matter now how she has come to enter this life, so far as concerns the truth of the fact that she has arrived there. It does not matter now whether it is because of our neglect, or whether she has been forced there by our industrial system—she is there, and is an important factor, and she is now asking for the rights and privileges which we men enjoy. Why should she not have them? If she is to compete for her place in the industrial world, why should she longer be handicapped by the outworn restrictions of days that belong to a past condition, that are gone—forever gone. I wish to say to any doubters here tonight, that the hand-writing is on the wall—that there is not the slightest question as to what the spirit of the times has written there; woman is going to be given, in this great democracy of ours,

every privilege, and every right, that man enjoys. There is absolutely no escape from it, even if we would escape. And let me say to the men present tonight, to quiet any needless fears, that the women are not going to enjoy all, or even the larger part, of the fruits of the change. Men are going to profit, in certain ways possibly more than the women can hope to profit. I say to the women here tonight, and to the women everywhere in this broad State of Michigan, I welcome you, and welcome the splendid achievements you have made, in spite of our withholding our encouragement and our help. I wish to congratulate you upon that progress, and upon the no less certain fact that you are destined to have, in the near future, the glorious heritage of equal privileges for which you have struggled.

In the business world, the spirit of the times tells us that "efficiency" is the watchword; and I wish to say just a word on that subject. I am inclined to think that undue emphasis has been put upon the progress that "efficiency" makes, in determining how a greater and better output can be produced. If efficiency keeps its eye only along that line, it will eventually fall down. It is highly significant, that up to the present hour we have quite failed to enlist the hearty enthusiasm of the employee in our efficiency plans. Any efficiency plan that does not approach employee and employer precisely alike, on the human basis, is a failure, and must ever be a failure. The spirit of the times now points to a kind of efficiency which shall ultimately bring to employer and employee alike, the wholesome fruits of human effort, to be in turn resolved into larger profits, for both.

I said to a man from the Northern Peninsula tonight: "Now that your portion of the State is prospering splendidly, and copper is thirty-nine cents a pound, is it not high time you were recognizing the fact that the man who toils under the earth should be a sharer in that splendid gain and prosperity; because, without the man under the ground, in your mines, you could not get your copper, your mines would be valueless, and your prosperity would disappear." He thought it was time. The lessons of history, and the spirit of the Present, must guide us in recognizing the importance of profit-sharing up in that important arm of the

commonwealth. And along with profit-sharing, the spirit of the times points to cooperation. The lack of efficient cooperation between labor and capital is one of the serious weaknesses in the present much eulogized system of "efficiency." But I have not the time to dwell upon those things.

I come naturally to the spirit of the times in education, in relation to world history; for there is going on today a great revolution in ideals and methods of education. The unprecedented development of science, during the last century, is responsible in large measure for the modifications of our courses of study. It has caused new emphasis to be put on vocational studies. It has forced the cry in education today, that first of all, every boy and every girl shall be trained to earn a living. This qualification is important. And so we are putting a tremendous emphasis upon the vocational feature; but we must not forget that "earning a living" is but a means to an end. The chief end is "living." In emphasizing how to earn a living, it will be a fatal error if we forget to train our boys and girls in the greatest of arts, the "art of living." The spirit of the times in education is putting a tremendous emphasis upon the training of man as an instrumentality. I deplore that one-sided educational trend. It is not the philosophy that we have heard expounded here tonight. It must not be lost out of sight that man as an instrumentality is a poor thing without personality. Personality is the man. And so some of the things that have been pushed into the back-ground in our educational scheme, must soon come into their own again—history, and drama, and poetry, and music, and art, the great cultural subjects, training in which prepares us in the higher sense truly to "live."

But the thing which I care most about in the education of the future is education for all the people, all the time. It is too bad that the intelligence of this country should longer accept the old traditional view of education, as a thing for children only—a thing to be got through with in our teens, and then put away on the shelf, to be pulled out on emergencies. Why so much talk about a "school age," when the only real school age is a life-time. Father Barth has aptly given us the illustration of training the right hand

and the right arm in efficiency and neglecting the left; is not that exactly what we do in our present educational system? Today we have outside of the traditional "school age," as many people who are worthy of the benefits of our educational system as we have in the traditional classes; and we have about twenty millions of boys and girls of school age in this country of ours who receive only in part, and in small part, the benefits of our schools.

My plea in Michigan—and it will be my plea to the last breath I draw, and the last word I speak—is education for all children, all men, and all women, of Michigan, all the people in all our States, all the time. Our great educational system, our splendid equipment, is applied to only one-third of our citizens. Why should not a state educational system have in it a place for fathers and mothers, for girls in stores and shops, for boys and men in factories, where they may go and feed their hungry souls. The spirit of the times clearly points out that we have not yet touched the A. B. C's of this subject, of the possibilities for real efficiency involved in an educational system of this scope, which shall educate for personality, as well as for instrumentality, to satisfy in the highest sense the hungry lives of all the people.

I believe in the gospel of work. The spirit of the times is pointing with new force and new enthusiasm to the invigorating power of work. We are coming to recognize that no man, even if he inherit his millions, can free himself, as a patriotic American citizen, from the responsibility of actually doing useful and serviceable work. I go so far as to say, that if we disregard the philosophy of work, and accept the theory of education which tens of thousands of fathers and mothers today practically embrace when they send their sons and daughters to our colleges and universities, in order that some how, some way, they may not have to pass through the hardships which are involved in work,—then we have reached the beginning of the end. Fathers and mothers forget, that it is the work, the down-right hardships, which they have gone through, that have made them the successful, useful, and happy fathers and mothers they are—real fathers, real mothers, real American citizens, worth while.

I hear fathers and mothers say, "We will not allow our boys

and girls to travel the rocky road we traveled." All right; I will tell you something; that is the reason why there are so many of those boys in our prisons in Michigan—not the girls; we have no place to put girls in our prisons; we take care of them in another way. Now you may think I am wrong in what I state about the boys. Let me say to you that a very careful study of hundreds of personal interviews convinces me that these boys in our prisons, somehow, somewhere, have lost their view in regard to the importance of work. "The devil finds work for idle hands to do," is as true as you live. It is as true today as when he drove Adam and Eve from the Garden of Paradise. If you want a true view of the meaning of life without work, read Milton's *Paradise Lost*. There is no quicker way to lose a paradise, if you have one, than to try to live without work; and there is no surer way of gaining one than by work. And I mean by work, manual work—at least some manual work. I have said, a thousand times or more, that bank officials, schoolmasters, doctors, lawyers, and preachers, would be better men by doing manual labor—some manual labor, daily. Show me a man with flabby muscles, and I will show you a man with a flabby Will—and Will is the motor power of life. But not for this alone should they do manual labor. The touch with the tool, with the sod, is a touch with the millions who toil, by whose sweat the earth produces—a humanizing touch with the great brotherhood of humanity. You could not take from me my garden in Big Rapids. I would let you have almost every other commercial possession I have, but I could not let you have that. And I would not disgrace myself by hiring somebody else to work in it. The privilege of digging in that soil belongs to me. I have a right to what is to be found there—better health, better spirits, better thoughts, a better man and a better citizen. I want to say to you that since being Governor of Michigan I have been in contact with the work in our prisons, in Jackson Prison, and I find that the thing most regenerating in the lives of those men there, is work—good hard work; that eight or ten years of honest useful work, is the only thing that will actually let those men out of the hell of their own lives, and point them towards Heaven.

A woman came into my office one day to appeal for her young son, twenty years of age, not quite twenty-one, who had held up the clerk in the Metropole Hotel, in Detroit. He was sentenced for five years. I could not conscientiously parole him at the end of two years, because he needed four or five years; he had been a parasite in his home, and a parasite in his community, and I felt that for real achievement it would take at least five years to put into his muscle and brain and constitution a reasonable regard for the righteous and regenerating power of work. At the end of five years it is barely possible that this mother will owe the State a debt of gratitude for bringing her boy out of darkness into light. And in a measure we all need that kind of training. I do not mean in prisons—not by any means—but the opportunity for work. Mind, I am speaking of *work*, not *drudgery*. There is a difference between work and drudgery. Drudgery is work beyond one's strength; work is re-creation, new creation.

I want to say a word right here about work and play. What is play? Did you ever help make a snow fort? Did you ever when you were a boy walk two miles on a hot day with your chum and wade to your knees in mud and water to gather a mess of cow-slips for greens? Did you ever play a game of foot-ball? Did you ever work harder? Work! It probably would not take a tithe of the same energy to split a pile of wood. You were doing it *with* somebody; it was a change from the routine; and you had your mind unconsciously on the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Now the spirit of the times points a step further. It has written in large letters SYSTEMATIZED, ORGANIZED RECREATION FOR MEN AND WOMEN. Some of you men sitting here may say, "O yes, it is all right for boys and girls to play, but men and women—it is beneath them." Why yes, if you want to die, if you are in a hurry to get to the cemetery, it is all right for you to entertain that notion. You are on your way, and you will arrive. If at sixty, or seventy, or eighty, you are ready to quit living—just quit playing. But if you want to be hale and hearty at eighty, play! Get in with the boys and girls, and get acquainted with them. If you are not used to it, it may be a little awkward at first, but they will enjoy that, and



you will enjoy them. Learn to play, if you have forgotten how. It is about time in America that we should get out of our heads the notion that boys and girls are to be corralled, and labelled, "boys and girls." No wonder there is a slow disintegration in the American home. Somehow, some way, I am pessimistic enough to feel that loyalty in the American home is a lost art. I hope I am wrong.

These are very commonplace things I am saying, but they are very fundamental. I hope some of you good people will find your way to Grand Rapids this year when the National Association for Play and Recreation is held. I think the organization has been in existence eight or nine years. The farmers of course laugh at what I say; they think it is sentiment; and probably they think I am a suitable subject for some of the minor asylums. But I tell them that if they would get together once a week, say on Wednesday, and play base-ball—have a real fine game, taking in the boys with the old fellows, and get acquainted—they would raise better crops, and have fun doing it. I leave you to figure out who are the candidates for the asylum.

Another word written large by the spirit of the times is HEALTH. We are coming, in Michigan particularly, to realize the supreme value of health. I have been wondering how far the members of this Society have been interested in a certain movement that is going on in the State of Michigan. It is of supreme importance that you and I should do a little something to recognize the laws of God as written in our bodies. I wish I could make men and women understand that the laws of health are just as sacred as the Decalogue. We go along, from day to day, year in and year out, most marvelous as it may seem for intelligent people, apparently in the blissful superstition that God Almighty takes care of children and fools.

If we need to look after the health of our bodies, so do we need to protect the health of our body politic. I will only touch upon the subject of patriotism, for it has been discussed here this evening most eloquently. I do feel a little sensitive, however, on one point. Some of my friends—they consider themselves my enemies—are not quite sure that I have the kind of patriotism



that the spirit of the times seems to have emblazoned on the sky in crimson. I rather think there is some reasonable doubt about the truth of their conclusions. The kind of patriotism I have been trying to teach for the last thirty years in Michigan, is the kind of patriotism that begins in the home, and works out from the home into the Nation. When I shall presently have occasion to speak to the boys in blue, at Grand Rapids on Decoration Day, I shall recall to them that when they went out to the great Civil War from '61 to '65, they were boys—not men of thirty, or forty, or fifty years; the great armies of the North were made up of boys, hundreds of thousands of boys, under the age of twenty-one; and yet, did ever an army in the world go forth and achieve, in larger degree, what was seemingly impossible, than did our boys in blue? The patriotism that comes from the heart, and soul, and loyalty of youth, is the patriotism we care for. If I understand the spirit of the times aright, the boys of today, 1916, have in them the same love of country, the same high patriotism, as had their grandfathers who fought in the Civil War. If they have not, then what apology have you to make for yourself? That is the question.

I am in favor of preparedness. I have always been in favor of an adequate navy, and an adequate standing army. But I am not in favor of commercializing militarism. Unaccountably, people seem to have lost hope, like the case of the man who sent a letter I received recently, saying a certain clergyman, in Monroe, preached on the subject, "Are we in the grip of Evil?" The whole tone of the letter carried the idea that the world is rapidly approaching dissolution; that the devil had taken full control, and was now driving the world head-on to perdition. I wrote back to him a consoling letter. I said to him, that although I was neither a prophet nor a historian, yet I knew enough about human nature to realize, that the whole world cannot be insane, except at moments at a time, and that out of this awful conflagration in Europe there will come a return to good sense and intelligence, and to an appreciation of what has been worked out in this country. The secret of our power, as a Nation, lies in three watchwords of the Declaration of In-

dependence: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. We had to come to our senses, with an awful cost of treasure and lives, in the great Civil War. The trouble with Europe today is, as with us then, their lack of democracy. It is fast driving them to destruction. I shall not shed very many tears over the brave men who have fallen in the Great War, because that would be useless. Millions upon millions of splendid men of the great civilizations of Europe lie sleeping the final sleep tonight; my heart aches not for them, but for the mothers, the wives, the children, whose hearts are bleeding for the sons, the husbands, the fathers—these women and children, who are not only to suffer to the last breath they draw, but whose children are to carry in the future, if militarism must grow, the endless burden which crushes out all that is noblest in life, indeed which makes it a serious question whether life under those conditions is even desirable. Therefore, my hope is in another kind of patriotism, the patriotism of the heart, of the soul, of the character, which dares to put its trust in law and order. I believe in the kind of patriotism which has made possible on this continent a great fortress boundary line, three thousand miles in extent, on which not a single material fortification stands today. Not a single gun is mounted, anywhere, on the entire boundary today between the United States and Canada, from ocean to ocean. Why? Because these nations are fortified in the hearts of the people. Spiritual forces, cooperative forces have made for mutual understanding, and the peaceful adjustment of differences, and this notwithstanding the fact that these two peoples are made up of the most heterogeneous racial and national populations that could be gathered from the ends of the earth. I believe in the patriotism of the home, of the city, of the county, of the State, and of the United States, and I believe there is still room for a higher and a larger patriotism, a patriotism which shall recognize that all humanity, everywhere, is entitled to enjoy the fruits of cooperative democracy, and of peace.

As I watch the finger moved upon the scroll of the future by the Spirit of the Times, I observe that words are written there concerning religion. That this is a vital issue, one in which there

is really a profound interest today, is evident from the fact that lay speakers find it a delicate subject to discuss; but it is not so delicate as it was twenty-five years ago, when people were inclined to keep it in air-tight compartments, quite away from every other interest, which they called secular. Some people are worrying because they think religion is getting mixed up these days too much with things of this world. I get letters every month from a certain man who is evidently collecting a certain kind of data that he thinks will answer all sorts of conundrums. Now if he would only take the time and trouble to look around his own home town, he would find right there his answer to most of his questions—Why men do not attend church? Is religion dying a slow but sure death? Is the end of the church in sight?—Too bad the vision of even the humblest man is not able to see that the world was never so religious as it is at this hour—O, yes, in spite of the European war, where strange as it may seem, each nation thinks it is fighting the great battle for civilization, and that the salvation of the world depends upon its success. When their religion shall get to be a little bit broader; when in an ordinary fist-fight we do not appeal to God Almighty to give us his personal help in punching the other fellow; when in our prayers we cease to pray that the rain may fall in our garden even if there is not enough to go round for the other fellow's yard—we will then be able to get a little closer to God. If God does not include in the essence of his Being the highest that we can conceive, then I think it would be well to revise our ideas about God. What is the "spirit of the times" but God, moving in the affairs of men? And if God moves in the affairs of men, how will you keep religion out of business, out of international relations, out of any relations that men and women have with one another on the face of the earth? "The kingdom of God is within you"—among you—the very essence of right relationships one with another. And not only does God work in the human, the animate, but in the so-called "inanimate"—there is no real "inanimate." The very clod is animate. Your crops would not grow on your farms if it were not. You cannot walk across the yard of the Capitol, or across your fields, and not get a vision of the

universal power that is working in the blades of grass, working in the flowers, working in the leaves of the trees, the same Power that works in the souls of men.

We need today to practice the religion that Abraham Lincoln practiced. He was not so much concerned about whether God was on his side as about whether he was on God's side. I welcome the coming of that day. And it is coming. The living God—the God of otherselfishness—is working and getting into the hearts of men; we are beginning to see ourselves in others, our other-selves. That is the essence of democracy, the essence of Christianity, the essence of true living. Real religion has not changed any more than the principle of life has changed. We adapt it in different ways, through different religious organizations, meeting different needs, but they all serve the same end, to make these three words of the Lord's Prayer more emphatic and more real than ever in the history of the world: "Thy Kingdom Come." We are anxious to have Heaven here, at least to have it begin here—and I venture to say that no one wants Hell here, although people sometimes talk and act in a manner that would certainly bring it, if they could have their way. I am sure I cannot be hurting the feelings of anyone here. I cannot imagine that anyone can be sufficiently intelligent to take interest in the deep things which concern the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society and not be wholeheartedly with me in these views. If there are any such, I beg of you, let a fresh breeze into that musty chamber of your soul, where you have so long kept your religion, and air it out, in the name of suffering humanity, and the crying need for vital living in this day of the coming of the Kingdom of God upon earth as it is in Heaven.

I did not mean to preach you a sermon. But I feel better to get some of these things said. I could tell you some more things I have in mind, if I had the time. I have said enough for tonight. These things are worthy of thought. You know them as well as I do, and perhaps you do not live them any better than I do. I thank you for this privilege of thinking over with you some of these fundamental things of life.

## THE FIRST BANK IN MICHIGAN

BY WILLIAM L. JENKS, M. A.

PORT HURON

WHEN Governor Hull and Judge Woodward arrived at Detroit in the summer of 1805 to assume their positions in the government of the new Territory of Michigan, they found the town in ashes with practically all the dwellings destroyed and the inhabitants huddled in tents, hastily built sheds and dug-outs awaiting their coming. With the exception of the small lots within the stockade upon which the former houses had been built, practically all the land belonged to the United States and there was no law authorizing its division and sale.

The officials realized at once, and in this they were soon followed by the people, that it would not be wise to rebuild the town upon the old restricted site; it was determined to bring the necessities of the situation to Congress at its session in December so that appropriate legislation could be enacted, and the Governor and Judge Woodward were selected to go to Washington as the representatives of the citizens and secure the needed legislation. Accordingly, after passing a few laws covering the most urgent matters and making enough appointments to supply the necessary officials, the Governor and Judge left Detroit for Washington on October 11, 1805. Gov. Hull remained in Washington until the early part of 1806, when he went on to Newton, Mass., his old home, while Judge Woodward remained in Washington until

The banking history of Michigan is full of interest and instruction. The Detroit Bank of 1806, the early chartered banks, the "wildcat" and "red dog" banks, the later chartered banks and the present system of supervised banks, together form a connected evolutionary course of banking operations which discloses many of the immutable laws which must always govern currency and banking. This sketch of the Detroit Bank, based largely upon contemporary papers and documents, may prove of value as a phase of the early history of Michigan, and as a chapter in the history of banking in Michigan.

after Congress adjourned the following March, and had the satisfaction of obtaining a part of the legislation he had journeyed so far to obtain.

Governor Hull, upon arriving at his old home, renewed his acquaintance with the business and professional men of Newton and Boston, and undoubtedly by reason of his former official positions and good military record, and as the Governor of a considerable western Territory, was highly regarded. Among his old and new friends were several who had large thoughts of obtaining a good share of the large and valuable western fur trade which up to that time had been practically monopolized by the English and Canadians. Prominent among these were Russell Sturgis, Nathaniel Parker, Dudley S. Bradstreet, and Henry Bass, Jr., all merchants of good standing in the business world of Boston. They argued that New York and Boston were much more favorable posts for this business than Montreal and Quebec, and that American merchants had decided advantages over the British, in that they could select their market from all Europe and China while the British were compelled to ship direct to London.

Detroit had then been for many years the center of a large fur business, mostly conducted by merchants with Montreal connections; the plan to make it the seat of a new, large and extended enterprise, to be financed and conducted by and in the interest of Americans, seemed plausible, and it is probable enough that the original promoters had such a plan in mind. However, it is certain that the petition which was drawn up at Boston, dated March 31, 1806, addressed to the Governor and Judges of Michigan and signed by Russell Sturgis, Henry Bass, Jr., Benjamin Wheeler, Samuel Coverly, Nathaniel Parker and Barzillai Homes, contained some important mis-statements. They stated that they had for several years been largely interested in prosecuting the peltry trade in the District of Michigan and had experienced great hazard and inconvenience in the transmission of specie to so great a distance; that the rapid improvements and flourishing trade of the Territory had induced them to extend their trade and connections more largely there, and that many purposes of public as well as private advantage would be greatly



promoted by an Office of Discount and Deposit at the Capital of the district; wherefore they prayed for an Act of Incorporation of a Bank with a capital of not less than \$80,000 nor more than \$400,000.

The facts seem to be that none of them had at that time or ever had had any interest in the fur trade of Michigan. To describe the situation in Michigan as one of rapid improvements and flourishing trade was certainly hyperbole, and the fur business as actually carried on in the locality where the furs were obtained was almost entirely one of barter, practically no money being used. Undenially a bank of deposit and discount would be a convenience and advantage to the few traders and dealers, as currency was scarce and exchange on Eastern points difficult to get, sometimes for considerable periods limited to the drafts drawn on Washington and Philadelphia by the government and army officials.

April 1, the day after he received the petition, Governor Hull wrote to Judge Woodward, still at Washington, "A very rich and respectable Company of Merchants in Boston have agreed to make an establishment in our Territory to carry on the fur Trade—They will place a Capital of one hundred thousand Dollars in the business in the first instance. They have petitioned our government for a Bank—I have ventured to give them such assurances that they will immediately make all their arrangements. All the shares are now subscribed, excepting one quarter part which is left for the People of the Territory. That quarter they will take if the people there do not wish for it. It is impossible that a Company of more wealth, intelligence and spirit could have been formed."

The assurances given by the Governor were so strong that the interested parties made very complete arrangements for the enterprise, and even selected their cashier for the new Bank; choosing William Flanagan, who at the time, was the First Teller of the Boston Exchange Office, a concern which had been incorporated in Massachusetts in 1804 to deal in "current bills," and which was already proving a thorn in the flesh of the conservative bankers of Boston. Among the Directors of this in-



stitution were Nathaniel Parker and David S. Eaton. George Odiorne was its Treasurer. At a little later period Dudley S. Bradstreet was also a Director.

In April, 1806, Governor Hull started on his return to Detroit, having arranged that his wife and family should follow him the next month. The prospective Cashier came on with the Hull family, bringing with him his bond as cashier in the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, signed by all the petitioners—except Russell Sturgis, and in addition by five new associates in the enterprise—a considerable amount in specie, and a safe-door and bar-iron for use in the construction of the vault in the new bank building.

The Governor arrived in Detroit June 7, and his family arrived the following month; but as Judge Woodward had not yet returned, no legislation could be had to incorporate the bank. The views of the Judge were thereupon assumed to be favorable; and without awaiting his return, a lot for the bank was selected, and mechanics who had been brought from Boston to build the Governor's house were set at work upon the new bank building under the charge of Benjamin Woodworth, who became one of the best known citizens of Detroit. This lot was upon the north side of Jefferson Avenue, a short distance west of Randolph Street, and the building was of brick, one and one-half stories in height and thirty-six feet square, and cost about \$8,000. It will be seen that this was an ambitious start for a banking institution in a small town of less than 1,000 inhabitants, surrounded by hundreds of miles of unbroken forest.

Judge Woodward arrived in Detroit September 3, and with him came Mr. Parker and Mr. Bradstreet, the former the largest subscriber to the enterprise; their arriving together, however, was said by Judge Woodward to have been purely fortuitous. The Boston men brought with them enough money in golden guineas to make with the sum brought by Flanagan the total of \$20,000, which was for use in paying upon the subscriptions to the stock.

After Judge Woodward's arrival, the Governor and Judges met in their legislative capacity for the first time on September 6; on that day the petition for the incorporation of the Bank

was presented by Governor Hull, and it was at once referred to him as a Committee to draft and bring in a bill covering the subject.

The Governor promptly reported a bill naming as the incorporators the Massachusetts associates, fixing the corporate life at thirty years, and the capital at \$400,000. Judge Woodward opposed all these features; insisted that the citizens of Detroit have an opportunity to subscribe for stock to any extent they desired, that the corporate life be extended and the authorized capital increased. The chief argument of the Judge was that in this way all intrigues for renewal of charters, increase of capital and additional banks could be avoided, and that only such capital would be taken out as could be profitably used. Such an institution he said should be a permanent Territorial one, to be continued as long as banks existed; as it might be disapproved at any time if its privileges were abused. The other member of the legislative body, Judge Bates, voted with the Governor, and the bill would have been passed as reported had not the promoters feared the ultimate effect of Judge Woodward's opposition, who was at that time very popular in the Territory by reason of his success at Washington in obtaining desired legislation; and the bill by their request, was amended in those three particulars, making the corporate life 101 years and the authorized capital one million dollars. The bill then passed unanimously. It contained six sections: the first, fixing the capital, divided it into ten thousand shares, and limited the time for stock subscription to four days. The second section made the subscribers a corporation with a life of 101 years, with the name, "The President, Directors and Company of the Detroit Bank." The third section provided for the management of the bank's affairs by a President and four Directors, and for stockholders voting by proxy. The fourth section provided a number of details in the conduct of the business, and made its bills transferable by delivery; it also authorized branch offices for discount and deposit anywhere. The fifth section declared that the bills when they should become payable on demand in gold or silver, should be receivable in all payments to the Territory. And the last section authorized the Governor to subscribe for stock in behalf of the Territory.

To the modern view, such a charter certainly seems sufficiently liberal. The wildest promoter could hardly have asked for more. It contained no regulation upon the amount of notes, nor any provision whatever for any security for the issues or for their redemption. There was no requirement that any particular portion of the capital should be paid in, nor any limitation upon either debts or loans. In short it is very likely the Boston associates prepared it themselves, and that the legislative body ignorantly swallowed it.

The law creating the Territory authorized the Governor and Judges or a majority of them, to adopt and publish laws from the original States, and it was customary in enacting a law to specify the State from which the law or any particular section was adopted. In this instance, the first section was stated to be adopted from the laws of Maryland and Virginia; but a search through all the laws of both States to find any similar provision limiting the time for subscription, would be in vain. Section two is said to be based upon the laws of Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The important feature of this section was the corporate life, and while in this case the life was fixed at 101 years, in no other state where a bank existed did it exceed twenty years, and there was no bank in existence in Kentucky. In some of the other sections there were clauses or sentences which were really similar to bank charters in one or more of the other States, but the completed whole was unique—it had no model.

It must not be thought, however, that the legislative body acted without any precedent in those features which seem to the modern view so indefensible. It is difficult not to read into the past our present knowledge, and to see clearly the standpoint of the actors of a century ago. Governor Hull was a man of excellent record as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and after that struggle was over he settled down at Newton, Mass., the home of his wife's father; besides taking an active and honorable part in the State Militia, he became an office-holder of some consequence, a justice of the peace, Judge of Common Pleas, and State Senator. He was, however, somewhat vain, impulsive,

easily influenced, and inexperienced and untrained in business. Judge Bates was at that time a young man of twenty-nine years who had lived in Detroit since he was twenty and had never known other business experience. Judge Woodward was much the most forceful character of the three, a student at Columbia College, a lawyer of considerable practice in Washington, a man of acute logical mind, with a strong tendency to theory.

It is very probable that the promoters, themselves from Massachusetts, had the original draft of their bill based upon the charter of the Massachusetts Bank chartered in 1784. That charter was silent upon the issue of notes, and upon the payment of the capital, as well as in other vital respects it may well have been the model for the Detroit Bank. The charter of the Massachusetts Bank originally was perpetual, but in this and some of the other important respects, amendments were made before 1806, of which the promoters were aware, but of which the Judges at least were, no doubt, ignorant.

Judge Woodward, who lived in Washington from 1797 until his appointment, was undoubtedly familiar with the terms of the charters of the Bank of Alexandria, chartered by the legislature of Virginia in 1792, and of the Bank of Columbia chartered by the legislature of Maryland in 1793, both of which banks were prominent institutions of the District of Columbia. In an article published by Woodward in 1801, he refers to these banks and discusses the question whether the erection of a bank by the legislature of a Territory would be a violation of the faith of the United States pledged to the Bank of the United States. Neither of these bank charters contained any restrictions upon the issues or provided any security for them.

The act creating the Detroit Bank was adopted September 19; the subscription books were opened the next day, and by the law were to be closed at sunset September 24, which left four days for subscription, as one of the intervening days was Sunday. The Boston party was of course prepared with its subscriptions, having originally expected to take all the stock. When the books were finally closed, the Boston people had 9,507 shares, and the Detroit people, including the Territory of Michigan, 483

shares. Of these Solomon Sibley, James Henry and Elijah Brush had each 100 shares, Dr. William Brown 50, James May 46; Francis LeBaron, Judge Griffin (who had just arrived in the Territory), Capt. S. T. Dyson, Robert and James Abbott, Lieut. Jonathan Eastman, Lieut. Henry B. Brevoort, and the Territory of Michigan each ten shares. James and John McGregor, Gov. Hull, Richard Pattinson, Hugh R. Martin, five shares each; William Gilkinson, James and Francis Lasselle, two shares each, and William McD. Scott, Gabriel Godfrey, Jr., and Judge Woodward one share each. Of the Boston party, Nathaniel Parker took 3,957 shares, Dudley S. Bradstreet 3,400, Andrew Dexter, Jr. 1,000 shares, George Odiorne and William Flanagan 250 shares each; Benjamin Wheeler and Samuel Coverly each 200 shares; Henry Bass, Jr. 120 shares, and Barzillai Homes 130 shares. Russell Sturgis had apparently retired from the proposition; it may have been his interest that Mr. Dexter took over.

The Bank thus created was a true pioneer; it had no neighbor west of the Alleghanies. The Bank of Kentucky received its charter December 27, 1806, and the Miami Exporting Company, which was incorporated in April, 1803, with banking privileges, did not begin to utilize those features of its charter until March, 1807, and these were the only institutions in the West authorized to do a banking business prior to 1808; although the Kentucky Insurance Company, incorporated in December, 1802, for the purpose of insuring boats and cargoes, had in its charter a simple appearing clause—that its notes payable to bearer should pass by delivery only—which was utilized to a considerable extent for note issues as currency, and was thought to have been intentionally framed to deceive the Legislature.

Mr. Gentle, at that time a resident of Detroit but a British subject, who was violently antagonistic to the Governor and Judges of Michigan because of some difficulty with them over his right to property in Detroit, claimed in his attacks upon the Governor and Judge Woodward, that when subscriptions to the stock were first offered it was stated by the promoters that \$25 per share would be called in at once, but that when no subscribers were found the payment was reduced to \$2. Silas Farmer in his

account of the Detroit Bank relied entirely upon Gentle's communications to the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia newspapers in which he made many references to the organization of the Bank and the people connected with it. When comparison is made of Gentle's statements with documentary facts, they very often are shown to be unreliable and grossly prejudiced. Judge Woodward wrote in January, 1808, that "Seven per cent was all that was expected to be called for unless after the lapse of many years, and two per cent was the first demand."

The Detroit subscribers were men of the highest personal, official and business standing. Solomon Sibley and Elijah Brush were lawyers of ability and means, progenitors of the well known Detroit families of those names. James Henry, the Abbotts, the McGregors, Richard Pattinson and Hugh R. Martin were prominent merchants; Capt. Dyson commanded the United States forces then at Detroit, and later married a daughter of John Dodemead, of Detroit; Lieut. Brevoort had charge of the naval force on the Lakes, and was the grandfather of Judge Brevoort. Lieut. Eastman and Dr. Le Baron were also in the United States army, and the latter subsequently became Apothecary General of the United States. Dr. Brown was one of the best known and most active citizens of Detroit, greatly beloved by the Indians for his kindness and ability. James May was prominent in many capacities, as office holder and business man, and William M. Scott was the first Marshal of the Territory and a physician in active practice.

The subscriptions to the stock were completed and the first instalment of two dollars per share called in and paid and the bank organized by the election of Judge Woodward, President, and four Directors, James Henry, Solomon Sibley, Elijah Brush and Dr. William Brown—all men of the highest standing in Detroit—before the middle of October; and the Boston representatives, Parker and Bradstreet, left for home. They intended, if possible, to get some of the Albany and New York fur dealers and capitalists to engage with them and take stock in the bank. Among those who were solicited but declined, were Mr. Riley of Schenectady, who was a considerable trader with the Indians and



later did a large Indian business in Michigan, and Mr. John Jacob Astor of New York.

The organization of the Bank was completed after the election of Judge Augustus B. Woodward as President, by making William Flanagan Cashier. The former had taken out one share and made his first and only payment of \$2 on the stock October 11, 1806. He said that he had foreseen that he would be asked to take a part in the enterprise and had determined to do so to the extent of one share only, and was greatly surprised at his election as President; but it is not difficult to see why that choice was made. Judge Woodward was then 32, a young man born in New York, had lived there, and in Philadelphia and Washington; was well educated and of much natural force, and was besides a personal friend of President Jefferson. He had returned only a short time before from Washington where he had spent some months in obtaining legislation that was urgently needed in clearing up the land situation at Detroit, and was held in high esteem by practically all of the residents of the community. For all these reasons he was the most acceptable and influential head that the new institution could hope to obtain.

In a letter written in January, 1808, Judge Woodward says that Governor Hull aspired to be President of the new institution but received only about one quarter of the votes cast for the office—a fact which may have influenced the Governor's subsequent feeling and action about the Bank.

It was very desirable to surround the Bank with all the favorable influences that could be found, because it was certain that opposition would be encountered. A year later Judge Woodward said that when the bill to create the Bank was before the Governor and Judges he was informed that there would be opposition, and that Mr. Quincy, member of Congress from Boston, would antagonize the Bank; no sooner were the Boston promoters gone from Detroit on their way home than trouble began.

At that time the Philadelphia *Aurora* was one of the most widely read and influential journals published in the United States, and William Duane, its editor, a personal friend of Jefferson, was an able but an extremely and bitterly partisan writer. A



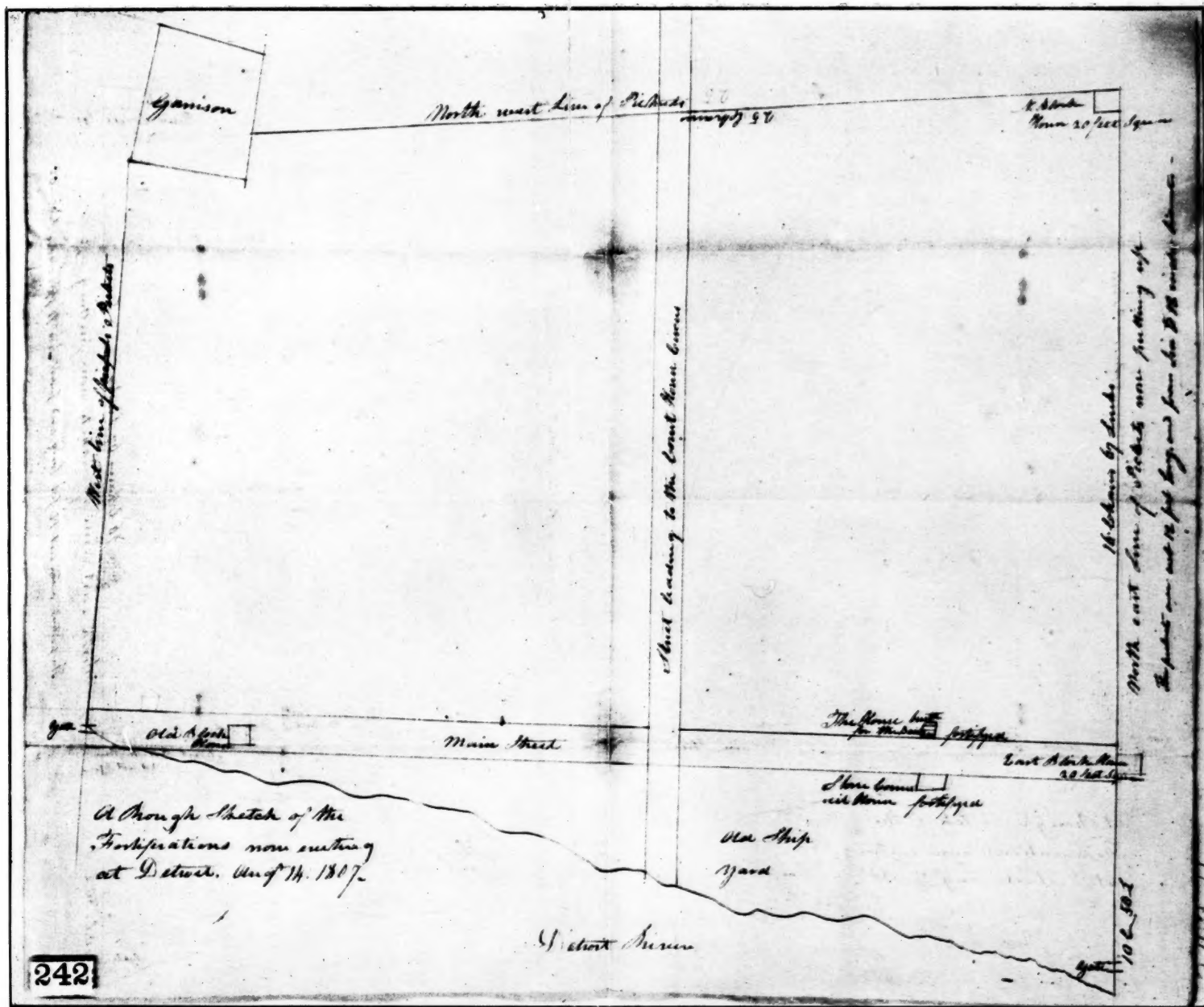
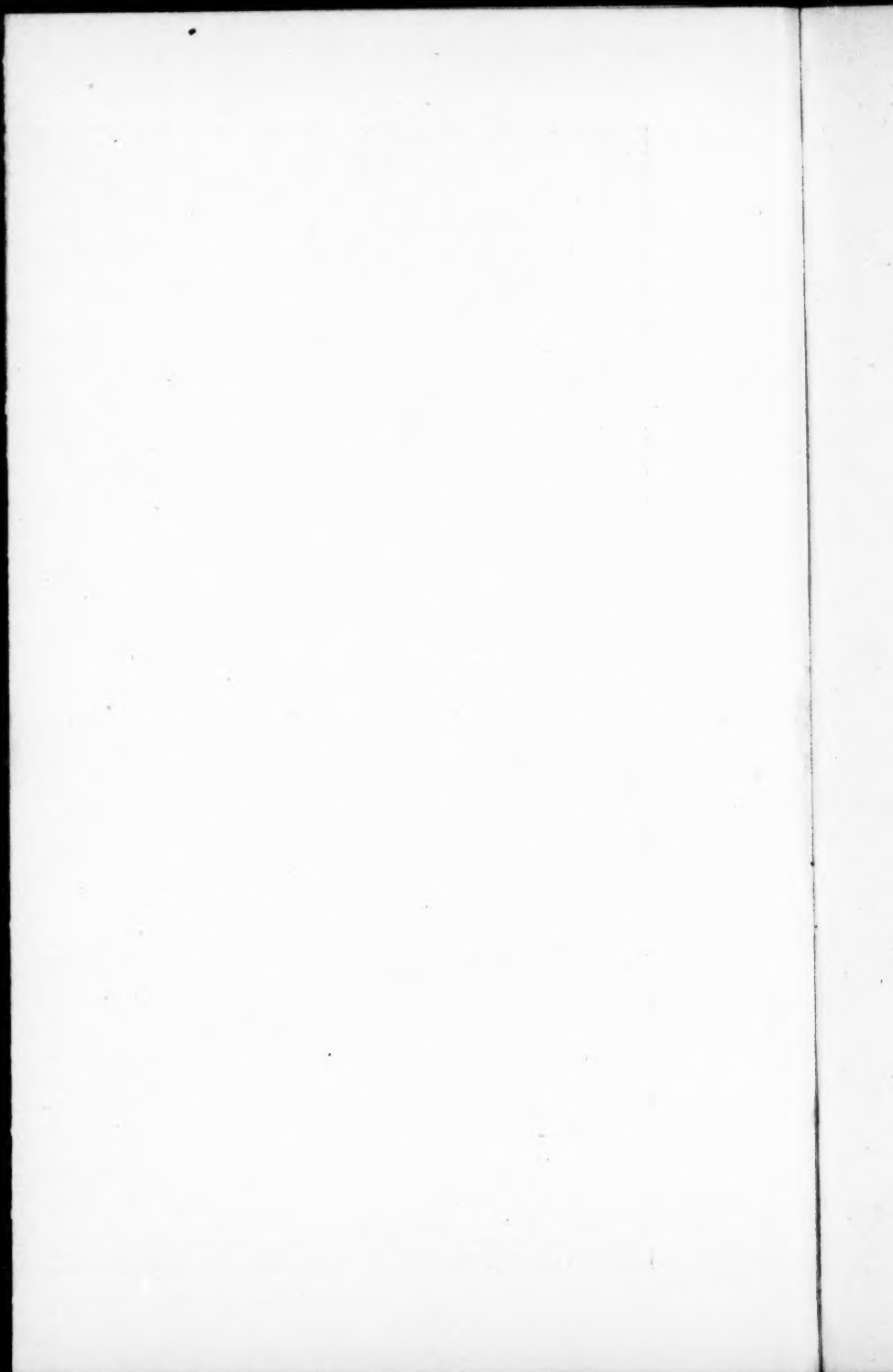


FIG. 1. FROM ORIGINAL IN WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON



few copies of this paper were taken in Detroit and on October 16, 1806, John Gentle wrote an anonymous letter to Duane describing the new bank project and attacking the Governor and Judge Woodward. On November 19, an editorial appeared in the *Aurora*, evidently based on Gentle's letter. It said in part, "The establishment of a bank in Michigan merits some inquiry. What is the object? Who are the concerned? Whence does the capital come? Under what circumstances? . . . . . What effect is it intended to produce? Is it calculated for mere speculation and the scheme of speculators, or is it connected with any *other* views? . . . . . Are the officers of the Government any wise concerned in it? These questions all afford ample subjects of inquiry."

One of the considerable stockholders from the outset was Andrew Dexter, Jr., of Boston, who appeared as a subscriber for 1,000 shares and who probably had much to do with the opposition of Josiah Quincy which led to the Congressional disapproval of the Bank Act and who because of his meteoric career, deserves some attention.

Andrew Dexter, Jr., was born in Brookfield, Mass., March 28, 1779, the son of Andrew Dexter, a merchant of reputation in Boston, whose brother, Samuel Dexter, was United States Senator, Secretary of War, Secretary of the Treasury, and a distinguished lawyer. Andrew graduated at Brown University with the highest honors, in 1796, and studied law with his uncle Samuel. Admitted to the bar in 1800, he practiced law for a time in Boston, but becoming interested in outside speculations, he abandoned his profession and gave his attention entirely to business.

A large number of country banks had come into existence in the small towns of Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire, and according to the custom and their charters, emitted large issues of notes which flowed toward Boston, the largest city nearest at hand, and tended to displace the Boston Bank circulation. In the parlance of the time, these outside notes were termed "current money," and in 1804 an institution was chartered by the Massachusetts Legislature with the name of Boston Exchange Office, for the purpose of dealing in this current money.

It was not very successful; however, Dexter had studied the

situation carefully, and concluded that a very profitable business could be effected by controlling banks at long distances from Boston and from each other, whose notes could upon issue be sent to the distant banks and localities, and thus be a long time returning to the place of issue for redemption.

As a first step he secured control at a heavy premium, of the Boston Exchange Office, and then of distant banks in Maine, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, and seems even to have been interested in a bank at Marietta, Ohio; and not long after its creation he became the owner of the Detroit Bank.

There seems to have been no limit to the amount of note issues which his banks could put out; and he would take a large issue from one bank, put it in circulation hundreds of miles away, and when any of it in course of time found its way home for redemption, it would be paid by a draft on the Boston Exchange Office, which would be paid in turn by other current money or notes of some other distant bank. In this way Dexter rapidly acquired apparent large means, and under the delusion that he had a permanent source of wealth, he purchased in 1807 a large centrally located lot in Boston and began the construction of an immense building which he called the Boston Exchange Coffee House. This building was seven stories in height and at that time was the largest business building in existence. Its architecture, however, was not pleasing, although the cost of the structure was nearly \$800,000. This tied up so much of Dexter's means that when in 1809 a combination of conservative Boston bankers under the leadership of Nathan Appleton began a campaign against his chain of banks, by presenting their notes and insisting upon real money in payment, he could not stand the strain and his banks suspended payment; with that, down fell his banking system, and his consequent failure for nearly a million and a quarter dollars was the largest failure in the United States up to that time; the crash was heard and felt for a long distance. He had not fully completed his building at the time, but it was finished later, and continued to be an object of wonder for its size and the many institutions it housed (a hotel, several stores, offices and assembly place) until its destruction by fire November 3, 1818.



BOSTON EXCHANGE COFFEE HOUSE

Reproduced from Memorial History of Boston.

11

One of the banks controlled by Dexter was the Farmers' Exchange Bank of Glocester, Rhode Island. This bank had an authorized capital of \$100,000, of which less than \$20,000 was paid in, and practically all of this was withdrawn. Dexter bought out eleven of the directors with bank funds and then borrowed \$760,265, upon his notes, which were to be paid when the holders of a majority of the stock of the bank should demand payment. He was not content with the fact that he was the actual owner of a majority of the stock; the notes contained the provision that he should himself determine when the notes were to be paid, the actual form of these notes being:

"I, Andrew Dexter, Jun, do promise the President, Directors and Company of the Farmers Exchange Bank to pay them, or order, ..... Dollars in ..... years from this date, with interest at two per cent per annum, it being, however, understood, that said Dexter shall not be called upon to make payment until he thinks proper; he being the principal stockholder and best knowing when it will be proper to pay the same." When the bank failed in 1809 its only available assets were \$86.46 in specie, and it had outstanding \$580,000 in bills.

There were serious charges made at the time of the failure of this bank, and Dexter thought it prudent to leave the country, going to Nova Scotia; but in 1810 he returned to the United States, and settled at Athens, N. Y., where he remained six years, active in many ways but successful in none. In 1816 his father, who was a very successful merchant in Boston, died, leaving him a considerable amount of Georgia land scrip—probably some of the notorious Yazoo scrip which was largely owned in New England. This took him south, where he remained during the rest of his life. He located land with his scrip, and upon one tract laid out the city of Montgomery, Alabama. He built mills about eight miles from that point, which were swept away by a freshet. From 1830 he spent three years, partly in Mobile and partly in Texas and Mexico, locating land, and then returned to Mobile; for a time his plans prospered, but in November, 1837, he contracted yellow fever while helping and nursing a sick friend, and died, leaving his affairs hopelessly embarrassed, as



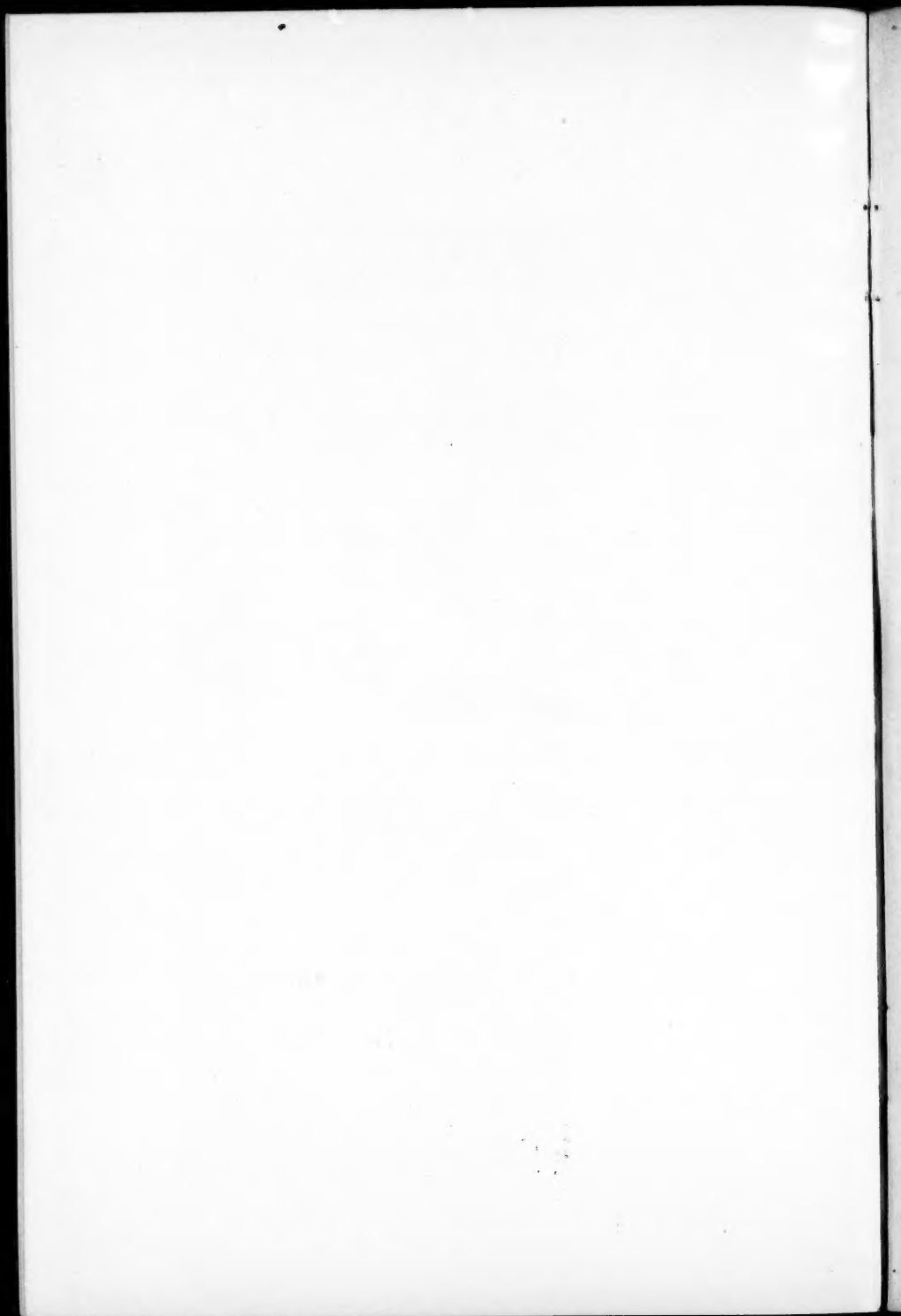
he had built a very expensive sawmill on one of his properties and to complete it had given a large mortgage on all his property. A typical promoter, and in many ways very modern.

It will be remembered that the Territory of Michigan itself became a subscriber to the stock of the Bank to the extent of ten shares. This was in pursuance of the provision of the act expressly authorizing it. In the Appropriation bill passed November 3, 1806, by the Governor and Judges, twenty dollars was appropriated for paying the first instalment on the Bank shares, and an additional sum not exceeding fifty dollars was authorized for subsequent instalments. This, however, was never called for, and in the summer of 1807 the Territory, like the other subscribers, sold its interest to Andrew Dexter.

When the Boston men left Detroit, they took with them according to John Gentle \$163,000 of the notes of the Bank, signed by A. B. Woodward, President, and William Flanagan, Cashier. These bills were of the denomination of two, five and ten dollars only, and were well engraved upon a peculiar and very thin but strong paper. As there had been paid in but \$20,000, and \$8,000 of this had gone into the bank building, the proportion of coin reserve was not unduly large. It may be asked what was expected to be done with the bills which were taken away. Among the papers of Solomon Sibley in the Burton Historical Library, is one which may throw some light on this question. It is a draft of a paper indicating that the notes were to be taken to Boston, and there loaned for not less than a year, the borrowers agreeing to send to the bank at Detroit upon notice from the Cashier sufficient specie to redeem the specific bills which may have been loaned them. The borrowers were also to have the right of extension upon agreeing to pay one third of the loan in six months after demand of payment should be made, one third in twelve months and one third in eighteen months. If we assume that the Boston Exchange Office, 800 miles away from Detroit, with communication slow and difficult, was the borrower, (which is justified by a letter from Judge Woodward), it may be surmised that the Exchange Office could reasonably



FIG. 6. ORIGINAL IN COLLECTION OF PORT HURON PUBLIC LIBRARY



depend upon a good proportion of the bills never being presented, and none of them without great delays.

With such a system of exchange of "Current bills" as I have outlined, the Detroit bills would be spread around quite rapidly, and as the conservative bankers of Boston saw this new and distant link added to the chain already in existence, they probably bestirred themselves to see if it could not be stricken off. Their member of Congress was Josiah Quincy, a Federalist and stockholder in some of the old established banks in Boston, and when Congress met in December, 1806, he soon began making inquiries. It was one of the provisions in the act creating the Territory of Michigan that Congress reserved the power to disapprove any law adopted by the Governor and Judges.

Stanley Griswold, Secretary of the Treasury, was unfriendly to the Governor, and shortly after the Bank was organized he communicated the fact of its establishment to Albert Gallatin, then Secretary of the Treasury; the latter at once sent for a copy of the act, at the same time writing to Jefferson that the Bank must be either "a landed or a swindling speculation," and that the motives of the Governor should be inquired into.

December 8, 1806, Madison, Secretary of State, also wrote to Governor Hull asking for a copy of the law creating the bank, and the Governor promptly requested Mr. Griswold to forward a copy. This was done, together with all the other laws passed in 1806, and on February 11, 1807, the President sent these to both houses of Congress. In the House of Representatives they were at once referred to a Committee of which Mr. Quincy was a member, and on February 24, he presented a bill disapproving the Detroit Bank Act. On the 28th of the same month it passed the House, and was at once sent to the Senate. March 2 it was referred to a committee of which John Quincy Adams was chairman; he reported it back the same day and it passed the Senate, and was approved by the President the following day; so that after a life of five and one-half months, the Detroit Bank ceased to have existence as a legal corporation.

The opposition in Congress was anticipated, and January 31,

1807, Judge Woodward wrote a long letter to Secretary of State Madison explanatory of the purposes of the bank organizers, and calling attention to the two points upon which he had insisted at the time the act was passed, namely, the repealability of the act at any time it was seen to work improperly, and the placing of the capital at a sum which it could never actually reach. He evidently expected the letter to be laid before Congress, and in it he laid down some general principles relating to money and currency which, while acute and logical and apparently based upon Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, have the same defects as that author displays on this subject—an over-confidence in the knowledge, sagacity and common-sense of the people and in the honesty and enlightened self-interest of the banker. The Judge suggested that if any action were deemed advisable by Congress it should be either in the form of an Act especially referring to the Bank and declaring it subject to repeal at any time, or a general act declaring all Territorial incorporations subject to the repealing power of Congress. This letter was circulated among the members of Congress, according to a letter from Washington published in the *Boston Gazette*, but to no avail in the face of the active and determined opposition, which included Mr. Gallatin, who from his European training and experience would naturally look with disapproval on any bank currency not thoroughly protected by specie, and who was openly hostile to the Bank and anxious to have it suppressed.

As Governor Hull came from Newton, near Boston, he was popularly and properly associated with the Bank's fortunes, and in the *Boston Columbian Centinel*, of March 11, 1807, appeared this item: "The bill to annihilate Hull's Detroit Bank has passed the House nearly unanimously and will probably pass the Senate without much opposition."

A belated attempt to obtain support for the Bank was seen in a communication to the same paper a week later.

"The persons concerned in the establishment of the Bank at Detroit deem it a duty they owe themselves and the public to develop the original motives that led to this establishment, that their conduct might be fairly appreciated.

"They flatter themselves that the enterprise they had in contemplation, of which this bank *was but a part*, involved in it as much public advantage as any enterprise that ever was undertaken; it had nothing less for its object than the diversion of the valuable trade of *Canada* to the ports of *New York* and *Boston*."

The Bank had, however, ceased legally to exist several days before this appeared.

At this time party spirit ran very high. Burr was under arrest charged with treason against the United States, and to be a "Burrite" was the depth of villainy in the eyes of Jefferson and his followers. Another subject of intense feeling was the Yazoo Frauds, involving the title to several million acres of land in the Yazoo Valley in Mississippi. A large interest in these claims was owned in Massachusetts, and they were vehemently opposed by John Randolph and the upholders of State Rights. Unfortunately for the Bank, its promoters and stockholders were charged with being both "Burrites" and Yazoo Speculators, and Judge Woodward thought it prudent in his letter to Secretary Madison to state that Burr, his agents, emissaries or friends had no possible concern in the Bank; while John Gentle, in his attacks upon the Governor and Judges made frequent charges that the Governor at least was interested in the Yazoo claims.

Governor Hull himself, although the original sponsor for the institution and its promoters, soon began to feel the force of the criticism which was so plentiful, and in an apologetic letter to Secretary Madison, May 26, 1807, he denied having any interest in the affair beyond the ten dollars which he had paid upon his five shares. He lamented that he had been deceived in the character of the management of the Bank, which he found had been reprehensible, and rejoiced that Congress had disapproved the act.

When the act of Congress passed there was outstanding a large amount of the Bank's notes, and it might be thought their usefulness was ended; but Andrew Dexter was a man of resource, and he conceived the idea of continuing the institution as a private concern. He therefore bought out all of his Boston associates and in June, 1807, sent his father and brother Samuel

on to Detroit to make the necessary arrangements. The interest of the Detroit stockholders, with the apparent exception of Judge Woodward's, was taken over, the Judge retired as President, and James Henry, a well known merchant of Detroit, was appointed in his place; while the same cashier was retained, and the Detroit Bank as an incorporated institution ceased to exist—but a private concern under the same name continued.

New notes were brought on for signature whose wording was quite different from the earlier ones, although they might seem the same on cursory examination. The new ones read, "The President and Directors of the Detroit Bank promise to pay out of the Capital Stock and Funds thereof to..... Dollars and the stockholders jointly and severally guarantee the payment at their Office of Discount and Deposit at Detroit. Date..... W. Flanagan, Cash., James Henry, Pres." (Figs. 3, 4. 5.)

The first notes issued read, "The President, Directors and Company of the Detroit Bank promise to pay..... or bearer on demand Five Dollars, Detroit, October 14th, 1806. Wm. Flanagan Cash., A. B. Woodward, Pres." (Fig. 6:)

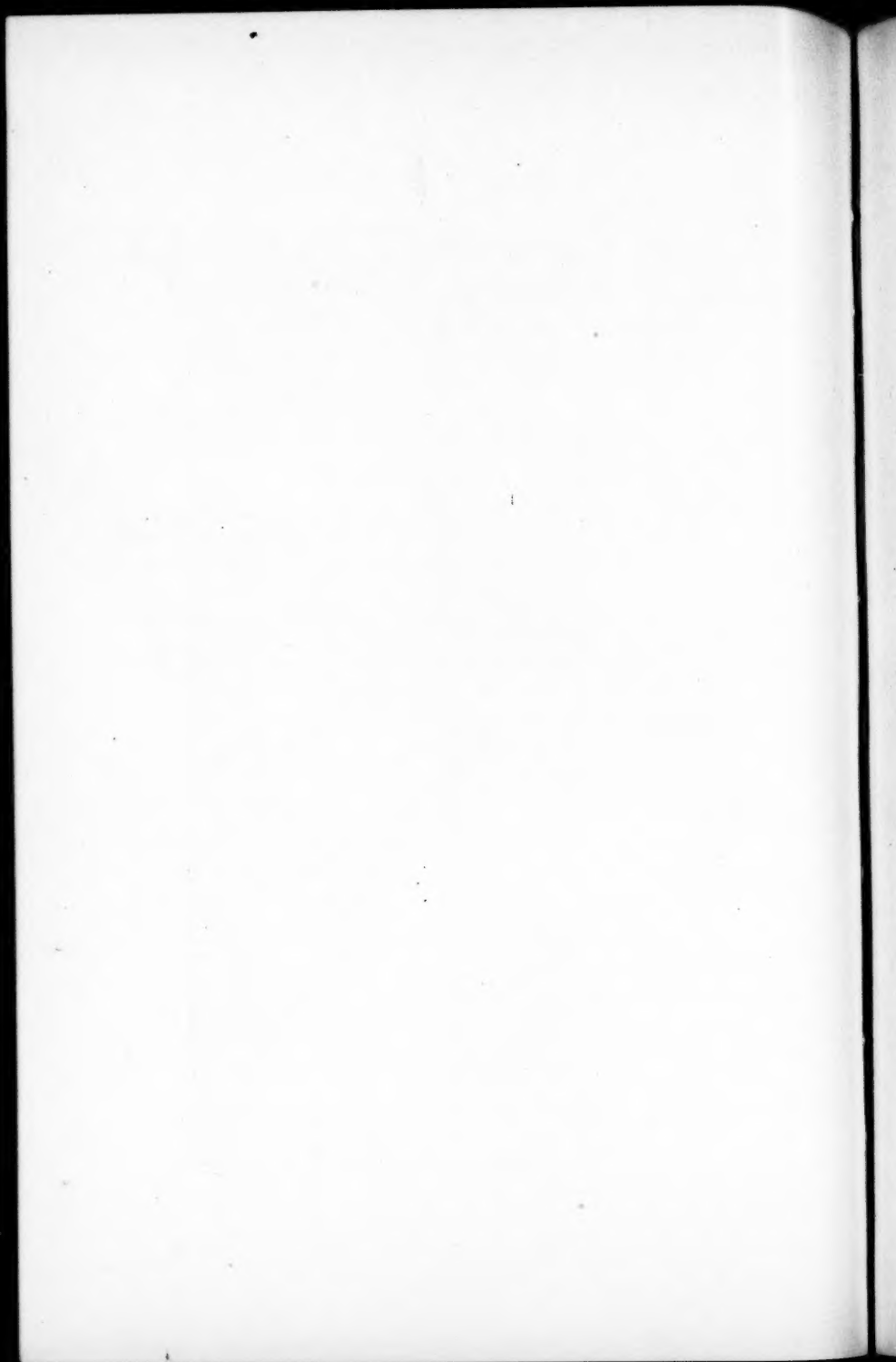
Thus the later issue contained the personal obligation of the stockholders, entirely lacking in the original issue. It will also be noted that the place of payment was written, indicating that the notes were prepared for use at more than one place.

Mr. Gentle (who, however, is much given to exaggeration) charges that a total of one and a half million dollars of Bank notes were issued, and it is certain that very much the largest part was issued in the second form.

Comparatively little of the Bank's issue was floated in Detroit; probably never more than a few thousand dollars was at any time in circulation there. The fear on the part of the Bank that the notes might be presented and payment demanded would naturally cause them to be taken as far away as possible, and the local requirements for currency were met by the Bank's putting in circulation in Detroit a considerable quantity of the notes of the Farmer's Exchange Bank of Rhode Island, another of Dexter's institutions.







The people of Detroit, and especially the merchants, were naturally interested in this proposition. John Gentle, who at this time was acting anonymously, was working hard by communications to Pittsburg and Philadelphia papers to stir up feeling against the local government, and the Bank as an alleged illegal institution was of considerable assistance to him. A young merchant named Sanders, then in Detroit, wrote to his father in Schenectady, N. Y., February 2, 1807, that letters had been received from Washington indicating that Congress would not sanction the Bank Act which would be "a very great detriment to the merchants and traders here."

July 20, 1807, he wrote that the Bank was to be kept up and renewed as a private company—that gentlemen from Boston were there for that purpose and had brought a quantity of specie to deposit.

During the few months of the chartered bank's operation only a very small amount of the bills was presented for redemption. The first bill, of \$5, was refused, and a short time later \$500 was presented and refused; the Directors, however, reconsidered their action and later redeemed them. Governor Hull in his letter to Secretary Madison states that five or six thousand dollars were presented which were refused payment, but Judge Woodward wrote in January, 1808, that all the bills of the incorporated Bank were called in and honorably discharged before he resigned.

After the change in the bank and the new issues of bills were made, they continued to circulate to a small extent around Detroit. It was charged that the militia and men of the army stationed at Detroit were being paid in Detroit Bank currency, and in March, 1808, a resolution was adopted in the Senate at Washington requesting the President to have laid before it all information in the possession of the Secretaries of War and the Treasury of any attempt by Governor Hull or any other person to pay off the militia in Detroit Bank notes; but nothing came of the inquiry.

The final quietus of the Bank was reached in December, 1808, when a law was passed making it a crime for any unlicensed or unauthorized persons or company to issue bills, and for any one

to pass such bills. At this time the Legislature consisted of Governor Hull and Judges Woodward, Griffin and Witherell. The Governor and Judge Woodward were not on friendly terms, and as the latter had left Detroit for Washington October 18 to obtain additional needed legislation from Congress, the Governor and Judge Witherell seized the opportunity to indulge in an indirect attack upon Judge Woodward and his Bank friends; on December 9 they passed this act against Judge Griffin's opposition. December 2 Mr. Flanagan wrote to Judge Woodward that Judge Witherell had come forward with a measure to do away with the little business upon which he depended for a livelihood. December 10 Mr. Sanders wrote to his father that the Bank had stopped payment on its bills. December 12, the President, Cashier and one of the Directors, Dr. William Brown, petitioned the Legislature to reconsider their action, but without avail, and after spending the intervening time in closing up the Bank's affairs, the Cashier left Detroit for Boston, May 16, 1809; all visible evidence of the Detroit Bank in the place of its location—except its building—ceased forever.

It is certain that there were issued, in all, a very large amount of the Bank notes, which had been spread as widely as possible. Mr. Gentle charged that more than \$1,500,000 in all was issued. In June, 1807, Mr. Sproat wrote from Marietta to Solomon Sibley, asking if by bringing \$8,000 or \$10,000 of the Detroit Bank bills he could get specie or bills of the banks of the Middle States. He was probably advised not to bring them. At one time Joseph Watson, Secretary of the Land Commissioners, received some of the bills for collection, and notified Judge Woodward that as he had signed the bills as President he was expected to hold himself responsible for their payment. The collapse of the Bank, followed by the failure of Mr. Dexter, rendered the whole mass of outstanding notes valueless, and if the nominal figures of these liabilities be considered, it will be seen that the first Bank failure in Michigan was also the largest up to the present time.

The first deed recorded in the Detroit City Registry book was a deed from the Governor and Judges to the Detroit Bank, dated November 10, 1806 signed by Governor Hull and Judges Bates

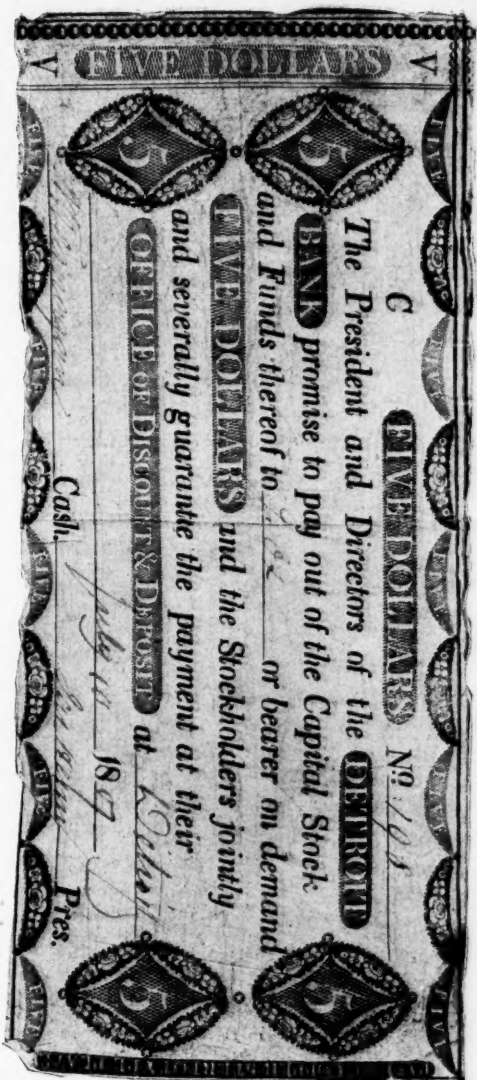


FIG. 4. ORIGINAL IN COLLECTION OF HERRBERT BOWEN, DETROIT

ALBANY  
NEW YORK  
JANUARY 1864  
P. 1

and Griffin, and conveying to it lots 11 and 12. At a meeting of the Land Board held October 2, 1806 on motion of Judge Woodward the Board had voted to sell "the lot on which the Bank is erected" for \$250, and that the Bank could also have the lot purchased by Abraham Cook for \$220, but as these prices were for sale on 5 years' time and the Bank was ready to pay cash, at a subsequent meeting on October 25 the cash price of \$325 for both lots was made, which was accepted. A mistake however was made in the deed and on January 1, 1807, the mistake was ordered to be corrected, and a new deed of the Bank lots made to Mr. Flannagan "as Trustee for the proprietors of the Detroit Bank."

By reason of the fact that the law incorporating the Bank was subsequently disallowed by Congress in March, 1807, the question arose in the following year as to the title to the lots, and the Governor and Judges asked the Attorney General, Elijah Brush, for an official opinion. He gave it as his opinion that by the act of Congress the Bank was dissolved, and that the title to the lots reverted to the Governor and Judges. As Andrew Dexter, Jr. had by this time become the owner of all the stock in the Bank, he was recognized as the equitable owner of the lots, and on April 12, 1809, the Governor and Judges made a new deed of the lots to him.

In the meantime Dexter had become indebted to Joseph and Thomas Emerson in the amount of \$2,035, and in 1810 they brought suit against him in the Supreme Court of the Territory, and attached the lots. December 4, 1810, they obtained judgment, and to satisfy this, the Marshal sold the lots; at the sale they were bid in by Elijah Brush, but in reality as trustee for the Emersons, to the extent of an undivided two-thirds. The Emersons assigned their interest to Mack and Conant, well-known merchants of Detroit, and in November, 1821, they sold to Phineas Fisk, who two years later conveyed to the Bank of Michigan. This institution, which was chartered in 1817, began business in January, 1819, as a tenant of this same property, and continued to use it until 1831. It had bought Brush's one-third interest from his heirs, but as he had never conveyed to the Emersons, he still had the record legal title to their two-thirds;



when he died in 1813 his nominal interest in their share passed to his heirs, and in 1825 the Bank of Michigan brought suit in Chancery against them and all persons having any possible interest, including Dexter, praying that its title might be quieted. After several delays a decree was signed January 26, 1828, by Judges Witherell and Chipman, granting full relief to the Bank, and establishing its title to the lots, and the Bank held the title until after its removal to its own new building at the corner of Jefferson Avenue and Griswold Street, now for many years occupied by the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Thus ended the first experiment in banking in Michigan. Thirty-one years later, in 1837, the State passed the first general banking law ever enacted, from which resulted the notorious and destructive crop of "wild cat" banks, bringing injury to the people and discredit to the good name of Michigan. In this case the law itself was not so bad, the chief trouble lay in the manner of its enforcement, or rather non-enforcement. The experience, however, was so painful, that the Constitution of 1850 provided that thereafter no general banking law could go into effect without the affirmative vote of the people—an early example of the referendum.

The moral to be drawn from these early experiments of Michigan is obvious. As all people are not prudent, nor well informed, nor honest, the power of issuing bank notes to serve as currency must be hedged around with rigid restrictions. As an economic proposition, a bank merely concentrates wealth, it does not create it.

Michigan suffered greatly from these experiments, but the hard lessons seem to have been thoroughly learned, and our present admirable State Banking System is no doubt largely due to the hard-won results of experience.

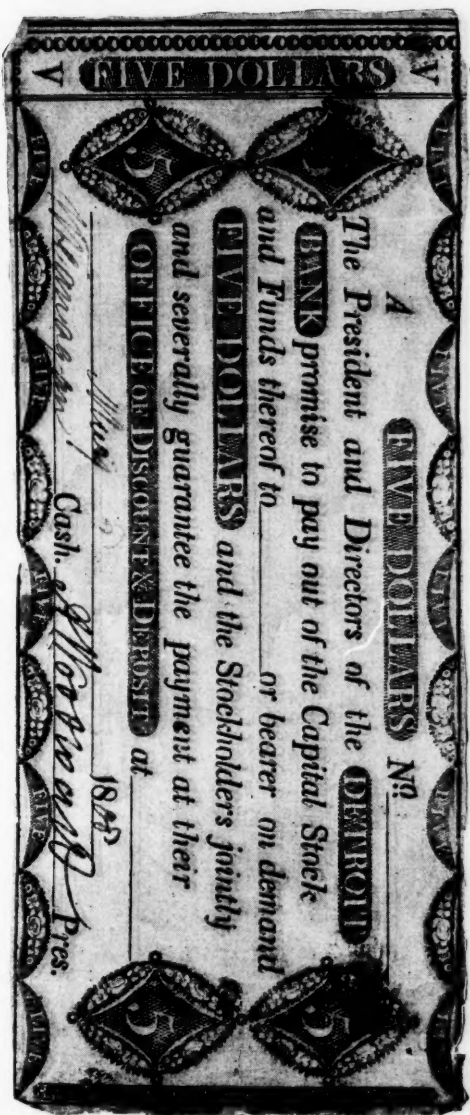


FIG. 5. ORIGINAL IN COLLECTION OF HERBERT BOWEN, DETROIT  
(Apparently a spotted unissued bill. The signature of the president with but one initial is very unusual and the bill is unnumbered and otherwise incomplete.)

1000  
1000  
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## CENTENARY OF THE SETTLEMENT OF OAKLAND COUNTY

BY MRS. LILLIAN DRAKE AVERY.

PONTIAC

**D**URING the week of Aug. 20 to 26, 1916, was held the first centennial celebration given by any county in the state of Michigan.

The idea originated in a committee meeting of the officers previous to the annual meeting of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society held at Pontiac February 22, 1914, at which time the project was launched. President Daniel L. Davis was empowered to proceed with the naming of committees to arrange for the great event which was to commemorate the coming into the county of the first white men of whom we have any record.

The settlements in Michigan Territory up to this time had been made on navigable waters, so that when Alexander and Benjamin Graham started out from Mt. Clemens in the summer of 1816 to "look land" for a new home in the interior for the family of their father, James Graham, it was really the beginning of a new epoch and well worthy of any commemoration that a community of the wealth and intelligence of a county like Oakland could make.

The first committee comprised D. L. Davis, F. H. Babcock, J. L. Marcero, C. L. Grosbeck and H. O. Whitfield, and although the committee was afterwards much enlarged, these gentlemen carried the greater part of the responsibilities for a year and a half.

From the time of the first committee meeting Feb. 20, 1915, until the centennial was over, a succession of problems had to be met and solved; but the final outcome was so satisfactory, the most pessimistic had to admit that the event spelled success with capital letters.

The plan which the committee tried to carry out was for a

week's celebration. On Sunday every church was asked to hold special memorial services in honor of the pioneers. Monday was generously given to the women for their day, for it was said they knew the women would make a success of the first day and there would then be no question of the rest of the week. Tuesday was appointed Industrial and Fraternal Day; Wednesday, Oratorical Day; Thursday, Historical Day; Friday, an Automobile Parade; and for Saturday, to finish the week, a Carnival.

As the celebration was a county affair the 25 townships were invited to take part, but each was expected to meet its own expenses. The work of organizing the township committees was begun in Nov. 1915, by Mrs. Lillian Drake Avery, chairman of the Women's Auxiliary committee, who personally visited and gave more than thirty talks in the different villages of the county and before various clubs and societies in Pontiac. Mr. Daniel Davis, chairman of the centennial committee, also gave much of his time to this work, arousing much interest, the ultimate result of which was in evidence in the final demonstration.

The program for the morning of "Woman's Day" included the opening exercises and the marking of three historic sites. The inscriptions on the markers tell briefly some of our early history. The first reads: "This Tablet marks the Fording place on the Old Saginaw Trail which later became the Saginaw Turnpike. To the southwest lay the camping grounds of the Indians. Placed by the Women's Literary Club of Pontiac. 1916." Mrs. Otto Sachse, president of the club, gave the dedicatory address. Response was made by Mr. Charles Matthews, Acting City Attorney. The tablet was unveiled by the Misses Margaret and Constance Hodges, great-great-granddaughters of Mrs. Oliver Williams, one of the first parties of white people to come over the trail from Detroit to Pontiac.

The second tablet, placed on the new Oakland theater, reads: "The Saginaw Trail followed Water Street to Perry St. and on this corner was built Nov. 1818, the first house in Pontiac. Joseph Todd a Revolutionary soldier, Orrison Allen and William Lester and their families, fourteen persons in all, occupied it from Jan. 19, 1819, till the following April. Placed by General Richardson

Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution." The regent of the chapter, Mrs. S. E. Beach, made the address of dedication, and the response was by Mayor Robert Lounsbury. The tablet was unveiled by Mrs. Alice Hadsell Smith and Mrs. Anna Hadsell Freeland, descendants of Joseph Todd. Mrs. Carrie Mack Newberry and Mrs. Lena Stark, also descendants of Pontiac's first settlers, assisted in the ceremony. This group of ladies wore the costumes of a hundred years ago.

The Women's Relief Corps dedicated a boulder placed at the corner of Saginaw Street and Fairgrove Ave., marking the entrance to the old fair grounds where the soldiers of the Civil War were encamped before they were called to the front. The address was given by Mrs. J. S. Young, president of the Corps, and the response was made by Robert Heitsch for the city.

There was still one more event on the morning's program, consisting of a most effective tableau staged by the Oakland County Equal Suffrage association on the steps of the court house, a long black curtain serving as a background. Two standard bearers, one dressed in white and yellow robes, the other in royal purple, were the first to descend the steps. Twelve young girls and matrons dressed in yellow and white represented the twelve States in which the vote for women had been obtained. In the background, members of a chorus garbed in purple and lavender Grecian robes were arranged artistically against the black curtain. Those in this group represented the States which do not permit equal suffrage. The hands of all those who were dressed in purple were tied with cords, indicating that their freedom had not been granted. The other group carried white shields with the names of their States embossed upon them. Mrs. W. Nelson Whitemore was the central figure, gowned in gold color, and in her address she gave the audience the suffrage ideal of good citizenship, saying that they held it their duty to recognize good citizenship wherever found, for which purpose they had devised insignia which they were going to present from year to year to representative good citizens. To gain this honor one must have performed some signal service for this community of Oakland County. "This year," she said, "we are going to be-

stow this pin on Lillian Drake Avery." Mrs. Avery was escorted to the speaker and was presented with the beautiful insignia and a scroll which gave reasons why she was esteemed a good citizen, among them being welfare work, collecting historical data and helping plan the centennial. The tableau was arranged by Mrs. Harry Coleman, president of the Oakland County Suffrage Association and member of the State board of the Congressional Union.

In planning for something in which all the women of the county could take an interest, it was thought that there was nothing better than a parade which should show the strength of the various women's societies through which their activities have been so wonderfully directed in the last twenty-five or thirty years. So every woman's organization, religious, fraternal, literary, patriotic or civic was given an invitation to take part in the parade with a decorated float or automobile or by marching in line in a body, each to carry a banner giving name, town and date of organization. We felt also that a celebration of this character should include the children, but occurring as it did in vacation time the teachers could scarcely be expected to assume such responsibility. The Mothers' Clubs were appealed to and responded so enthusiastically that there was a splendid representation from each school well looked after by the parents. The committee had reported to the marshal the acceptance of over fifty societies besides the schools, each represented by from one to sixteen automobiles, but not until the autos and floats came pouring in from every direction did any one realize the magnitude and beauty of the parade. Every township in the county but two was represented. Farmington responded with the largest delegation, and the most elaborate float.

This float "Women's Progress in 100 years," represented first the three occupations open to women a century ago; home industry, by a woman spinning; next, a teacher imparting the three "R's" to her pupils; and lastly a nurse. "The College girl" was really the first progressive; next came the "Stenographer;" the "Up-to-date girl" stood for the ability to do anything the occasion demands; and the splendid poise and physique of the



"Suffragist," the last of the types shown, illustrated the highest development of woman the century could produce.

The press gave the following tribute:

"Women of Oakland County yesterday afternoon presented in their parade, intended to convey an impression of the progress of their sex in this county in the last 100 years, a convincing proof that such progress has been real.

"The parade, as an artistic effort, was probably the best that has ever been given in the city. Its size and the uniform quality of the floats exhibited indicated a long and careful preparation, with a degree of cooperation that is unusual in events of the sort. The women of the city and county are to be congratulated for having made the first day of the centennial week an unqualified success.

"More than this, the sentiment of the centennial was exemplified, it is probable, better by the women's program than it could be through any other means. They made the results of the day in a large degree permanent and the sentiment everlasting by the placing of markers which will remind the populace of the county for generations to come of the historic sites of the vicinity. Too easily do these matters slip from memory and records concerning them become mislaid and lost."

Another tablet was unveiled immediately after the parade, at the Central school. The inscription on the tablet reads: "Aug. 21, 1916 The Public School Children of Pontiac mark this the site of "The Old Union" the first Free school in Union District No. 2. Established 1849." Mrs. L. C. Nesbitt, chairman of the Mothers' Clubs committee, gave an excellent history of the early schools which preceded this free school. Mr. Charles Matthews accepted the tablet for the city and Mr. G. L. Jenner, Supt. of the Pontiac Schools, spoke a few words of appreciation of the work the Mothers' Clubs are doing.

There still remained one more feature on the day's program, namely, the exhibition of babies at the High School. Our beautiful new building had been thrown open to the public and at three o'clock the babies were ready for inspection. There were eighty-two in the contest, which was under the direct supervision of Miss

Anna Bety's, the school nurse, assisted by Miss Kate Brown and a committee from the Mothers' and Teachers' Clubs of the various schools. For three weeks, two days in a week, the physicians and dentists had given their time to examine the babies. The ages ranged from six months to two years.

The examination was conducted under five headings: mental; dental; eye, ear, nose, and throat; physical; and measurements. While no "perfect" child was found, the total results were so satisfactory that the judges decided to make a report to the department at Washington, and thus put Oakland County on record. Mary Ellen Heitsch and Josephine Davis scored 99.8, being tie for first place. The second prize was awarded to Marian Francis Reynolds, who scored 99.6. The third prize was also a tie, between Ida Ellen Annie Athins and Frances Vanderworp, score 99.1. Prizes were also awarded for the smallest baby, the heaviest baby, the tallest baby, and the baby who came the longest distance. The last was awarded to a baby that came from New Smyrna, Florida. Only one pair of twins were entered. A talk to the mothers was given by Miss Brown, and literature was freely distributed with the hope that the occasion would prove of benefit to the babies.

The second day of the centennial was marked with a parade probably the most pretentious ever witnessed in Pontiac. It was produced by the fraternal and industrial organizations throughout the county, and the merchants of Pontiac. Large marching delegations, splendid bands, handsome floats and crowds of people made this one of the big days. From a press report is taken the following:

"Wednesday, Oratorical Day, found a large crowd gathered in front of the Board of Commerce building. A concert by the Pontiac Commercial Band preceded the formal program as arranged by the Centennial Committee. On this occasion the county was honored by the presence here of Governor Ferris and ex-Senator Chas. A. Towne, of New York. Mr. Towne came here with his aged father and mother, former residents of this county, and renewed a relationship with this particular section, which took him back to his boyhood days, when he was born on a farm

in Rose Township. His address on Oratorical Day proved to be one of great interest to the large number of listeners who were present on that occasion. Mr. Ferris made a characteristic address and laid stress upon pioneer days and early association he himself had with the county at the time he came to Pontiac as a boy, after leaving New York State.

"Original poems by Mr. John Snook of Rochester and Mrs. Kitty Cuthberton McCoy, remarks by the chairman, D. L. Davis, and a short address by Frank B. Leland were features of the day."

To many of us, the demonstration on Thursday was the culmination of the week's festivities. The Historical pageant presented by the townships, giving episodes in their history and the customs, costumes, work and play of the pioneers, was the real pith of the celebration. This pageant made a picture of the past that will linger long in the memory of the thousands of interested spectators. It was all so different from what had preceded it and so original, as each worked out in its own community the idea suggested by the committee.

Leading the pageant was a band of Indians, representing the original inhabitants of Oakland. Then came two young men, personating the two Graham brothers who entered the county in 1816, carrying their axes and guns over their shoulders. They were followed by the townships in the order in which they were settled.

Avon came first, settled in 1817 by the Graham family, who were represented in an emigrant wagon.

Pontiac, the next township settled, reproduced the first log cabin as it appeared in the winter of 1818-19. Descendants of the first settlers filled the doorway. One of a group outside of the cabin was engaged in grinding an ax, another in cleaning a gun, while one of the children intently watched her mother cooking at a kettle hung on a pole over the fire.

Perhaps the most complete reproduction of all was the exhibit of Bloomfield showing the interior of a log cabin. A grassy sloping bank surrounded the little house, which boasted a stone chimney. There was a "tester bed" in one corner of the room the furnishings of which as well as other articles in the room were

once used by the pioneers who first settled that township in 1819. Some of the old scholars of the Tuscarora school of Bloomfield Township rode on a float showing school in session in olden time. The school was founded in 1836.

A cavalcade of ten or twelve boys and girls on their ponies were supposed to be Chief Kennebunk and his braves, whose camping grounds were in Troy, 1821, when Johnson Niles took up the first land in that township. This first settler was represented on a small float trading with the Indians. A large float decorated with wheat, old blue and white counterpanes and rag carpet, made an appropriate setting for a group of ladies, Troy's oldest inhabitants, who were engaged in spinning, with both large and small wheels, knitting and sewing rags, while a companion sang old time songs, playing her own accompaniment on a melodeon.

A wigwam in a thicket of evergreens, with several young braves on the lookout for game which seemed to be quite plentiful, was a reminder of the favorite hunting grounds of West Bloomfield, which the white man disturbed in 1821.

Royal Oak was settled in 1822. The first settler was a shoemaker, and this important member of a community was represented 'mid wax and leather' with lapstone on his knee. The float was decorated with hand made shoes, oak leaves, emblematic of that "Royal Oak" from which the township derived its name, and cow bells, as this township boasts the only manufactory of cow bells in pioneer days; and the tinkle of this brazen instrument echoed again along the old trail where they were so often heard in days of yore.

Farmington was settled by the Quakers, in 1824, and showed a humble log cabin thatched with grass, the peaceful home of a Quaker family.

Southfield, settled 1823, was represented by a decorated car. A banner recalled the old Covenanter Church, the oldest of its kind in the State.

Commerce reproduced the old Indian trading store of its first settlers who came in 1825.

A gay quilting party seated around a patchwork quilt was presented by Orion. All were gowned in the quaint styles of

1825. The canopy of the float was adorned with patchwork and even the name and date of settlement were formed by appliqued patches on a white ground. One of the industrious quilters rocked her baby in a wooden cradle with her foot; another had her infant in her lap under the quilt.

Oakland came next, with a float decorated with garlands of oats. Several men were threshing out grain with flails.

After the first families had settled down in their new homes in Groveland, there was felt the need of a little relaxation from the hard labor of felling trees and erecting the log dwellings, so a dance was proposed and the whole neighborhood for several miles were bidden to the frolic. Alas! for the best laid plans, etc. The only fiddler in the country failed them at the last moment. Right here the women of Oakland early demonstrated their ability to meet an emergency. The women said they would have that dance if they had to sing the tunes to dance by. A party of young folks representing their ancestors of 1830, danced in a bower of green the Virginia reel, to the same old tune their mothers sang at the first social gathering in Groveland.

Addison represented women engaged in household tasks that were common in early days in every household, but are now very rarely seen, such as picking geese, making candles, stringing apples for drying, and churning with a dash churn. The float was decorated with wild grasses and festoons of dried apples. This town was settled in 1830.

Springfield, settled the same year, showed the contrast between an Indian woman sewing on a moccasin in 1816 and a modern woman operating a sewing machine.

Lyon Township gave a spelling match between the youngsters of the two villages South Lyon and New Hudson. The children wore the costumes of 1830, the date the township was settled.

Hop raising was carried on extensively in Milford at an early day, and the hop pickers at work was the feature of this township float. The first settlement was made in 1831.

Holly was settled the same year. For a long time the George Washington club there has held an annual banquet at which has appeared a fife and drum corps, representing the famous group

"The Spirit of '76." This was their offering for the pageant. The reproduction was very fine and was greeted with cheers along the entire line of march.

Oxford scoured the country far and near for a yoke of oxen, which they at last secured at the stock yards in Chicago. A long-bearded farmer drove them attached to a cart in which rode the women folks with their spinning wheel, going to spend the day visiting their neighbors. The town was settled in 1832.

Highland was also settled in that year. They were more fortunate than their neighbors, for their haymakers were drawn by oxen which were a home product.

The distinctive feature in White Lake Township is an Irish settlement which dates from 1833. On the float of this township was shown an "Irish Merrymaking." The fiddler and the dancers apparently enjoyed the occasion as much as the spectators.

Rose, settled 1835, presented a float suggesting the old tannery at Buckhorn Corners. Several women were at work making mittens of the skins.

Four of our townships failed to appear, but when one takes into consideration the prostrating heat that had continued for weeks, the overworked farmers and their wives, the almost total failure of the crops from the long drouth which naturally had depressed their spirits, and the long distance some of the township delegations had to travel (20 miles or more), it is really a wonder that so many were represented in so creditable a manner.

After the historical pageant came a vehicle parade, each decade from 1816 to 1916 being represented by the different styles of vehicles prevalent in that period. The people who rode in the vehicles were dressed in the fashion of that time. There was the primitive vehicle of the Indian, consisting of two long poles fastened on each side of a pie-bald pony with ends dragging the ground on which the pack was bound. A squaw and papoose used this as a seat. The year 1816 was represented by a two-seated chaise over a hundred years old, owned by Josiah Emery of Waterford. It is still frequently used by the family. Another noticeable vehicle was a prairie schooner sent by Mr. George Booth from Cranbrook. It was a most complete outfit for an

emigrant family, even to the cattle driven along the trail by the woman of the party. A high wheel bicycle with the small guiding wheel in front, attracted much attention from the younger generation. Lumber wagon, spring wagon, democrat wagon, concord, wagon, landau, phaeton, gig, cart, tally-ho, surrey, box-buggy, top-buggy and automobile carried the living models exhibiting the changing fashions that have been worn for a hundred years. Here was shown the evolution of the bonnet from the green calash of 1816 to its final appearance in the "postage stamp" variety of 1886, through successive changes marked by the poke shape, the scoop bonnet, the Quaker and the Shaker bonnets, the "sky-scraper" of the 60's which was about the most eccentric of all, to the tiny bit of millinery that was last worn by fashionable women. Many beautiful old shawls, mantles and gowns were also displayed. In the 1916 section came the finest type of automobiles produced in our factories. The first ones carrying our pioneers over 80 years of age. At the end of the procession came on horseback the circuit rider and the pioneer doctor with the same saddle bags that had in the 30's and 40's been used by Dr. J. James Hoyt of Walled Lake.

Miss Elizabeth Efferts had in charge a large collection of pioneer relics which were exhibited in the windows of Waite's store and many other places on Main street. The relics came from all over the county and added in no small degree to the interest of the occasion.

The parade of decorated automobiles on Friday evening and the fire works Saturday evening closing the festivities, presented no unusual features. There should not be omitted, however, mention of the dedication of a boulder and bronze tablet at Orchard Lake on Thursday afternoon, by the Countryside Improvement Association of West Bloomfield. The inscription reads: "This tablet marks the end of the Indian Trail from Mt. Clemens to Orchard Lake. Pontiac and his braves returned to Me-na-sa-gorn-ing after the battle of Bloody Run." The ceremonies were carried out with the presence of three members of the red-skinned race, one of whom was said to be a descendant of Chief Pontiac, thirty boys and girls dressed in Indian garb and eighty children from



the Fresh Air Camp carrying flags, and they were most impressive. Miss Caroline Campbell, a life-long resident of Apple Island, gave the address. She told of the love and reverence of the Indians for the Island and the stores of legends and traditions that still cling to the locality. Mr. Charles Boughner and Mr. James Burns, the oldest inhabitants of the township, unveiled the tablet.

The centennial is now an event of the past, but in retrospect every one is proud to think that we could thus honor our county and pay so fine a tribute to the memory of our pioneers. This feeling is beautifully expressed by Mrs. Kitty McCoy Cuthbertson:

"Our beautiful county, the State's diadem,  
Bands of silver her streamlets, each lake a gem.  
Each lake a sapphire when, with waters at rest  
It mirrors the blue of the sky on its breast.  
Each lake an emerald with charm evermore  
Reflecting the verdure green-fringing the shore;  
Each lake a garnet or ruby, blood-red  
When the hues of the sunset are over it spread;  
Each lake an amethyst when o'er it are hung  
The storm clouds and purple-red shadows are flung;  
Each lake a diamond when the radiant beam  
Of the sun in the noon-hour gives sparkle and gleam;  
Each lake a topaz earth's bosom to grace  
When the pale yellow moon smiles into its face;  
And when the white cloud-rifts float slowly above,  
Each lake is a pearl which the angels must love.

Ah! these are the lake-gems of world-wide renown  
God has chosen to set in Michigan's crown;  
They adorn our fair county, these jewels of worth,  
Our Oakland, the fairest, the dearest on earth.

The work of our fathers let us often recall,  
Nor let the dim past overshadow it all;  
And let us be sure that our children will know  
The story of one hundred years ago—

The story of hardship, of toil and of tears,  
The story of brave-hearted pioneers.  
Their part is finished, their labor is done,  
Our part to cherish the guerdon they won;  
Our part to render, as year follows year,  
All honor and praise to the pioneer."

## 'HISTORICAL NEWS, NOTES AND COMMENT

THE idea of a quarterly Magazine of Michigan history for the Historical Commission was first taken up in 1916 during the presidency of Hon. Edwin O. Wood. The purpose of the magazine is two-fold, as a historical news bulletin, and as a medium for the publication of papers and other historical materials of interest to a wide circle of readers. Hitherto, such materials have been published in the Michigan Historical Collections, along with documents of interest mainly to historical writers, historical studies of large scope, and the Proceedings of the State Pioneer and Historical Society. For many years the Collections constituted practically the sole historical publication in Michigan. Sometimes a number of years elapsed between two successive volumes. Always there arose the problem of their proper distribution, since the materials were so diverse as not to be uniformly useful or interesting to any given class of readers. Much of the material was therefore, if distributed at all, necessarily misplaced. News was not news when it was received. The Proceedings of the Society were sometimes several years old, or perhaps not printed at all.

These materials will now be published separately. To take care of documents in the nature of source materials, a Documentary Series will be issued. To care for the longer historical studies, particularly those in the nature of doctoral theses written at universities, a University Series is provided. The shorter papers, including for the present those read at the meetings of the State Pioneer and Historical Society, also the other essential features of the Proceedings, together with the historical news of the State, will be published in the Magazine.

The news section should be a helpful feature to historical work throughout the State. In this section the Commission and Society will try to keep every county of the State in touch with the historical work which is being done in all counties. Reports from

local societies and from clubs and schools which are doing work in Michigan history will be received and sent to all, that the whole State may work together unitedly.

Other features will be added as they are seen to be needed. Suggestions for the improvement of the Magazine are invited and will be given careful consideration.

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The historical work of the State met with a severe loss Nov. 17, 1916, in the death of Lawton T. Hemans, President of the Michigan Historical Commission and a member of that body since its organization in 1913. Mr. Hemans was deeply interested in the study of Michigan history, having written a school history of the State, widely used in Michigan, and a biography of Michigan's first Governor, Stevens T. Mason. His counsel was invaluable to the Commission's work, and his winsome ways endeared him to all its members. In the words of a resolution adopted by the Commission, "His attractive personality, good judgment, persuasive pleasant manner, wide personal acquaintance and democratic spirit, combined to make his counsel and suggestions very valuable, and his death brings to each member of the Commission a deep sense of personal loss."

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Two new members were appointed to the Historical Commission in 1916. William L. Clements of Bay City, Regent of the University of Michigan, was appointed to succeed Edwin O. Wood, who resigned on removing to New York City. Augustus C. Carton of East Tawas, Secretary of the Public Domain Commission and Commissioner of Immigration, was appointed to fill the place made vacant by the death of Lawton T. Hemans.

Mr. Clements has long been associated with historical work, having gathered one of the most valuable private collections in the United States relating to Michigan and general American history. His knowledge of the high ideals which should obtain in the work of building up a State collection of documentary materials for the use of citizens of the State and students working for the higher degrees at the University of Michigan and other universities, is an invaluable asset to the State's historical work.

Mr. Carton brings to the work a quarter of a century of practical experience in public life in Michigan, during which time he has been interested in every phase of the history of the commonwealth and closely associated with the public agencies which have worked for its welfare. One of these agencies is the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, to which in its early struggles to preserve its opportunity to serve the historical interests of the State Mr. Carton was a tower of strength. This service to the Society which has grown steadily with the years has been fittingly recognized by the Society in making Mr. Carton its President.

The State's need of proper protection for its historical documents seems likely to be met in the provision made by the last Legislature for an \$800,000 building upon the State lot south of the present Capitol. In this building will be housed the offices and files of the Historical Commission and the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society. Space and cases will be provided for the pioneer museum.

This improvement should facilitate greatly the collecting of valuable manuscripts from the homes of men who have served the State in public life. The State archives in the several Departments, which have been in constant danger from fire, and of impairment from mice, dirt, dampness and mutilation, will be properly cased, listed, calendared and indexed, and made more easily and quickly accessible. It will be possible also to undertake the copying and collecting of suitable documents from the county, town, and other local archives.

The Historical Commission has recently issued *Economic and Social Beginnings of Michigan*, by George N. Fuller, as Vol. 1 of the University series of the Commission's publications. It contains some 700 pages, and is a careful and thorough study of the settlement of the Lower Peninsula during the Territorial period, 1805-1837. As the author states in the preface, the work aims to call attention to the fertile field for historical study which lies at the beginning of Michigan's history as an agricultural commonwealth under American institutions. The volume is usefully

illustrated with original drawings, maps, and reproductions. An analytical table of contents is provided, in addition to a good index, a bibliography and an appendix of original documents and statistics.

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A descriptive list of the papers of Austin Blair, Michigan's "War Governor," has recently been completed by the Historical Commission, and may be consulted at the Commission's office. The papers comprise about 11,000 items, and are in possession of Mrs. Charles Blair, of Lansing.

Of the total number of papers, over eight thousand relate to the Civil War, especially to the raising and equipping of troops and the providing of officers for them; and over eight hundred to political questions. The letters and papers on political subjects are the most valuable portion of the collection. With the exception of four letters relative to the nomination of the candidate for governor on the Whig ticket in 1847, and a manuscript copy of the Fourth of July address delivered at Jackson by Mr. Blair in that year, there is nothing earlier than December, 1860. The greater portion of the correspondence falls between that date and 1873, that is, the period in which Mr. Blair was Governor of the State and afterward a Representative in Congress.

Students of the military history of the Civil War will find in this collection useful material; and those studying the economic, political and social history of Michigan and the Old Northwest during the war and reconstruction periods will find these manuscripts an invaluable source of information. Among the more important subjects for which considerable data can be found in these papers are the following: The equipping of regiments; the number of men in the State who enlisted in the army, and the section of the State which furnished most of them; aid given to soldiers and their families; conditions in the hospitals; evidences of copperheadism; views of the people on reconstruction questions; attitudes on the tariff; dissatisfaction in the Republican party during the war; the development of factions in that party and the consequent Liberal Republican dissatisfaction; the economic, social and sectional basis for this division; evidence

of the rapid growth of corporations; and the influence of the monied classes in politics.

A very fine gift of maps from Dr. R. C. Allen, State Geologist, has been presented to the Michigan Historical Commission.

During the Michigan-Ohio joint re-survey and re-monumenting of the Michigan-Ohio boundary line which has been in progress recently, the Geological and Biological Survey had occasion to make an investigation of the history of this part of Michigan's boundary. In connection with this investigation a visit was made to Washington by Prof. C. E. Sherman, in charge of the survey for the State of Ohio. Prof. Sherman secured photographic copies of all the maps of interest in connection with the Michigan-Ohio boundary which are on file in the Government archives.

Dr. Allen had a set of these maps cut and mounted for use and also for greater convenience in filing, and it occurred to him that a set of these maps should be available for public inspection and use at the seat of the State government and that the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society and Michigan Historical Commission would be the organizations which should properly assume custody. He therefore presented to the Michigan Historical Commission on behalf of the Board of Geological Survey the following photographic reproductions:

- I. Mitchell's map of 1725.
- II. Bell's map of 1772.
- III. Bowen's map of 1772.
- IV. Faden's map of 1777.
- V. Hutchins' map of 1778.
- VI. McMurray's map of 1784.
- VII. Laurie & Whittle's map of 1794.
- VIII. Map of 1794—authorship unknown.
- IX. Map of 1796—authorship unknown.
- X. Lewis map of 1819.
- XI. Finley's map of 1825.

Mitchell's map of 1735 is a progenitor of Bell's and Bowen's maps of 1772 and Faden's map of 1777. It was probably drawn upon to considerable extent in the making of Hutchins' map of



1778. Hutchins became the first geographer of the United States Government. McMurray's map of 1784 shows what is supposed to be Thomas Jefferson's plan of subdivision of the old Northwest Territory.

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The twelfth midwinter meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society was held at Battle Creek, January 25 and 26, jointly with the Battle Creek Historical Society. The sessions were a gratifying success, due in large measure to the fine cooperation of the Battle Creek society. Most of the papers read at the meeting were furnished by members of that society and residents of Calhoun County, as follows:

Rev. James Cahalan, Rector St. Mary's Parish (Marshall), *History of St. Mary's Parish, Marshall, Michigan*; Mr. Charles E. Thomas (Battle Creek), *The Early Industries of Battle Creek*; Mrs. A. F. Redfield (Marshall), *Landmarks of Marshall*; Mrs. Mary Brockway Dickie (Albion), *Reminiscences of William Hadley Brockway*; Mrs. M. E. Henry (Albion), *What Women have Done for Calhoun County*; Mr. W. G. Coburn, Supt. of Schools (Battle Creek), *The Early History of the Public Schools of the City of Battle Creek*; Professor Delos Fall (Albion), *History of Albion College*; Mrs. W. H. Cortright (Homer), *Early Families of Homer*; Mr. Forest G. Sweet, *The Story of Battle Creek's First Bank*. Mr. J. H. Brown gave an illustrated talk on *Old Time Scenes In and Around Battle Creek*.

Several papers and addresses were given by persons from outside the county. President Carton spoke briefly in response to the hearty welcome extended by the Mayor of Battle Creek, who presided. Mr. Carton called attention to the splendid part played by Calhoun County in Michigan's history, and the auspicious occasion of Michigan's 80th birthday for a new start in the work of preserving the records of that history, and expressed the hope that a Calhoun County Historical Society might soon be formed as a result of the meeting.

Mrs. Florence I. Bulson, of Jackson, President of the Michigan State Federation of Women's Clubs, brought greetings from the Federation to the meeting, expressing their appreciation of the

Society's work and their desire to continue their cooperation with local historical work in every way possible. Mrs. William H. Wait, of Ann Arbor, State Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution, gave a report of the work done by the various Chapters in the State on Michigan history during the year. Judge Edward Cahill of Lansing reviewed the history and development of the State since its admission to the Union, taking as his subject, 1837-1917: *A Retrospect*.

One of the most entertaining features of the program was a recitation of the story told by Sojourner Truth of her life in slavery days, as reported by Harriet Beecher Stowe. This was given in most realistic and convincing dialect by one of Sojourner's own race, Mrs. Nellie S. Lane, a school teacher of Cassopolis, who has had training in elocution. In addition to this number, a fine musical program was enjoyed by all, for which the Society is indebted to Mrs. Burritt Hamilton and her faithful helpers.

Reports of the meetings held in 1916, at Petoskey, Lansing, and Escanaba, are given in the Fourth Annual Report of the Michigan Historical Commission, a copy of which may be obtained from the office at Lansing.

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The forty-third annual meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society was held in the Senate Chamber in Lansing May 9 and 10. The following papers were read:

Hon. William L. Jenks (Port Huron), *The Creation of Michigan Territory*; Mrs. Lillian Drake Avery (Pontiac), *The Centenary of the Settlement of Oakland County*; Governor Albert E. Sleeper, *Michigan in War and Peace*; Rev. William F. Gagnieur, S. J. (Sault Ste. Marie), *Indian Geographical Names in the Upper Peninsula and Their Interpretation*; Mr. Ambrose M. Shotwell (Saginaw), *Michigan's Blind People and Their Work and Workers for the Blind*; Mr. Claude R. Buchanan (Grand Rapids), *Mr. George W. Thayer's Relations with Lucius Lyon*; Hon. Woodbridge N. Ferris (Big Rapids), *Reminiscences of Lawton T. Hemans*; Rev. John C. Vismara, D. D. (Kalamazoo), *The Coming of the Italians to Detroit*; Rev. John P. Sanderson, D. D. (Chicago), *Congregationalism—A Factor in the Making of Michigan*; Rev. Ame Vennema, D. D. (Holland), *The*

*Rise and Progress of Hope College; Supt. Alvin N. Cody (Flint), Teaching of Michigan History in Public Schools.*

Mr. Edgar Brown of Port Huron charmed his audience with a poetic interpretation of the beautiful Indian legend, "The Trail of the Arbutus." Mrs. Nellie S. Lane, of Cassopolis, recited effectively the story of Sojourner Truth. At the close of the program Samuel H. Ranck of Grand Rapids gave an illustrated talk on the remains of the logging industry in Michigan, for which pictures were gathered on several canoe trips on Michigan rivers.

A fine musical program was enjoyed by all, the larger portion of which was furnished by talent from Lansing. Numbers given from other cities were by Mr. Frank Grover and Miss Dorothy Wines of Ann Arbor, and Mr. Roy Adams and Miss Ethel Adams of Mason.

The following Trustees were elected by the State Society at this meeting, to hold for a term of two years, ending with the annual meeting in 1919: Hon. Augustus C. Carton, Hon. Woodbridge N. Ferris, Mgr. Frank A. O'Brien, Hon. Junius E. Beal, and Mr. Alvah L. Sawyer. Hon. Augustus C. Carton of East Tawas was reelected President of the Society, and Mr. Gerrit Van Schelven of Holland, Vice-President. Both Mr. Carton and Mr. Van Schelven have been several years Trustees of the Society, and are well known by Michigan people aside from their historical work,—Mr. Carton as Secretary of the Public Domain Commission and Commissioner of Immigration, and Mr. Van Schelven as a prominent business man of Ottawa County. Mr. B. F. Davis of Lansing was reelected Treasurer.

Invitation extended by Trustee William L. Clements of Bay City was accepted to hold the next midwinter meeting of the State Society at Bay City, in January. The Society also accepted an invitation, extended by the Keweenaw Historical Society, to hold the next Upper Peninsula meeting at Houghton. The latter meeting will occur August 15, 16 and 17.

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The Upper Peninsula received a visit from Mrs. M. B. Ferrey early last March, who spoke before schools, clubs and societies over a route extending from Menominee and Escanaba to Hough-

ton, and from there by way of Marquette to Sault Ste. Marie. From all places she visited she heard earnest appeals for more attention by the Society and Commission to the historical interests of the Upper Peninsula. At Menominee Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Sawyer, and Mr. Roger Andrews, editor of the Cloverland Magazine and a born organizer, are leading the movement for a Menominee County Historical Society. At Houghton Prof. Lew Allen Chase and Supt. Doelle were found full of plans and enthusiasm, and in charge of the March meeting of the Keweenaw Historical Society. At Marquette the Normal College, under the inspiration of President James H. B. Kaye, is taking an active interest in Michigan history. Hon. Daniel Ball and others are organizing a Marquette County Historical Society. The Upper Peninsula Development Bureau, under the leadership of Mr. George W. Rowell, Jr., recently conducted a prize essay contest in the history of the Peninsula. At the "Soo" Judge Chapman and others are promoting interest in the forming a Chippewa County Historical Society.

The historical interest shown in the Peninsula appears to warrant the holding of a meeting of the State Society above the Straits each year.

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At the annual meeting in May, 1916, a committee consisting of the late Judge Rollin H. Person, Hon. Junius E. Beal, and Mr. Byron A. Finney, was appointed to investigate the marking of the last resting place of Hon. William A. Fletcher, first Chief Justice of Michigan. As chairman of the committee, Mr. Person brought the subject before the last meeting of the Michigan State Bar Association, speaking as follows:

"Mr. President, I am charged to bring to the attention of this Association a matter that was brought to the attention of the State Historical Society by Mr. Frueauff, of Ann Arbor, who is connected at present with the Secretary of State's office, and was brought to the attention of the Supreme Court, and I was charged to bring it to the attention of this Association, which I will do with far fewer remarks than I intended.

"The First Chief Justice of the State of Michigan was the

Honorable William A. Fletcher, who lived in Ann Arbor; he resigned from the position after having served about five years. He died in Ann Arbor in 1853, the first Chief Justice of this State.

"Apparently there had been some trouble in the latter years of his life of a kind that I am not particularly acquainted with, but at least there were not many of his relatives at his death in that vicinity. He died and was buried in Ann Arbor in an old cemetery, and as years passed by the bodies were removed from that cemetery to a new cemetery, and it was supposed that probably they had all been removed, but a few years ago, in laying a new water main through the old cemetery, in making the excavation they came upon an iron casket of peculiar shape. It interested the men who were making the excavation. The casket was of course taken out and inquiry was made among the older citizens as to whose casket it might be, and it was developed that it was the casket in which Judge Fletcher was buried. One or two of the older citizens remembered that Judge Fletcher was buried in an iron casket. That was a curiosity in those days, and the people had attended the funeral in large numbers and it was impressed on their minds. The superintendent of the water construction works and others notified some relatives of Judge Fletcher—they were distant relatives, I understand, and people in very poor circumstances—and they either did not have an interest or they did not have the financial ability to take care of the remains of the late Chief Justice, and they were placed back in the excavation above the water main and covered up, and those remains are now without a marker, without a headstone or footstone; and I am told that not more than one or two men would be able accurately to locate the place in which the casket lies buried. The superintendent of the waterworks was superintendent for many years and is alive now; I have his affidavit, which I will not stop to read, but he tells us that he can locate those remains within fifteen or twenty or thirty feet,—and there is the situation! Nobody seems to have any interest in the matter, unless it is the lawyers of the State of Michigan.

"I am not certain that it is a very lasting honor to be a Justice of the Supreme Court or even Chief Justice of the Supreme

Court. I do not suppose that one man in a hundred in Michigan today outside of the profession could name the Supreme Justices of the State of Michigan—all of them, and I remember that Judge Stone made the assertion at Marquette that not three men at the banquet could name all the Justices of the Supreme Court. It is not a very great honor or a very marked honor, but it seems to me a shame that the first Chief Justice remains there without a marker, and that upon the death of one or two individuals now living the place where his remains lie will be perhaps forgotten.

"I bring this to your attention to do whatever the Bar deems best."

At the annual meeting of the Society last May, the above committee reported through Mr. Byron A. Finney that they had consulted with the officials of the city of Ann Arbor and with others, obtaining information that justifies a report of some progress. The report says,

"Mr. Titus Hutzell, in connection with whose work as Superintendent of the Ann Arbor Water Works Department the body of Judge Fletcher, in an iron casket, was exhumed and re-interred, several years ago, is also President of the Forest Hill Cemetery Association. In private conversation with him and the city officers it seems probable that the city would remove the remains to the cemetery to be placed in a suitable plot offered by the Cemetery Association, all without charge.

"The question of the erection of a proper monument and of public exercises therewith will naturally be a matter of soliciting subscriptions, and of cooperation with other organizations interested.

"Therefore, the committee asks this association to pass a resolution to the following effect:

"WHEREAS, The body of Judge William A. Fletcher, the first Chief Justice of the State of Michigan, who died in Ann Arbor in August, 1853, still lies in an unmarked grave in an abandoned cemetery in that city, and it is proposed to remove the body to a suitable place, properly marked, in the present new cemetery, be it

*Resolved:* That this Society ask the State of Michigan to extend recognition to this movement, and that we invite also the

City of Ann Arbor, The State University, The Michigan Bar Association, The Daughters of the American Revolution, and any other organizations interested, to cooperate with us in this long delayed memorial to an official who played so worthy and important a part in the early history of our State.' "

The resolution was adopted, and the proposed action is being taken.

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Mr. Clarence M. Burton, of the Michigan Historical Commission, has issued privately the first three numbers of a series of documents which he has planned to publish from the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library. The unusual interest which the historical public has shown in this undertaking insures the continuance of the series for a considerable time. The pamphlets will be paged continuously for convenience of binding and reference. Mr. Burton intends as soon as possible to make the pamphlets larger and issue them quarterly, beginning the year with the October number. It is planned to devote some space in each number to documents of fairly general interest. The first portion of a collection of manuscripts relating to the history of Sandusky and vicinity will appear in the next issue. In the near future a series of documents bearing on the War of 1812 will be published, including especially documents which tend to vindicate General Hull.

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The removal of Hon. Edwin O. Wood to New York City took from Michigan his fine collection of books, maps and manuscripts relating to the Mackinac country. Writers interested in this material can reach Mr. Wood at 155 Riverside Drive, New York City.

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Mrs. Ethel Rowan Fasquelle of Petoskey, Chairman of the Historical Committee of the Petoskey Women's Federated Clubs, sends an interesting report of a local history contest in the Petoskey high school. The success of the contest was due largely to the fine cooperation of Principal Lantz. The report says:

"Twenty-eight students entered into the contest, and three



prizes were given, \$5.00, \$3.00 and \$1.00. The winners were Henry Hamill, senior; Grace Blakely and Lawrence Thomas of the Tenth Grade. The winning prize story was written on the subject, "The Mission Farm," the second, "Bay View," and the third, "Industrial Growth in Petoskey." The young people were allowed to write upon any historical subject they might choose, with the suggestion that it be if possible relative to schools or institutions in or near Petoskey. Twenty-eight entered the contest, and the judges found all efforts so intensely interesting that it was with the utmost difficulty that a selection was made. The result of our first contest is so remarkably gratifying that we announced to-day that the plan would be broadened next year, and two series, for the grades and the high school, will be arranged for the beginning of the year."

With Mrs. Fasquelle, on the historical committee of the Federated Clubs, are Mrs. Minnie E. Cross, and Mrs. Grace Jessop of the school faculty.

## REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES

(Arranged alphabetically)

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### ALLEGAN COUNTY

#### Otsego Township Pioneer Society

##### Officers

President.....Frank A. Kramer, Allegan

Secretary.....D. W. Stewart, Allegan

Treasurer.....A. B. C. Comstock, Allegan

This Society has not been active for some time. The meetings are held annually at the fair of Otsego County. A general feeling is reported that the time is ripe for the organization of an Allegan County Historical Society.

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### ANTRIM COUNTY

#### Pioneer Association of Antrim County

##### Officers

President.....Dempster H. Stebbins, Central Lake.

Secretary.....Clark E. Denemore, Bellaire

Historian.....Mrs. Mary Williams, Central Lake

The time of meeting of this Society is not regular, but a picnic is generally held in August, at which four or five hundred are present. At these meetings a silk badge is sold for 25c, as a souvenir of the occasion, which brings in sufficient money for the year's expenses. The Society has accumulated a large amount of material for county history, such as the early history of various churches and their pastors, the early history of the schools of the county, and the methods of handling the timber which grew in this region. There is much to do along this line which requires

persevering research. The Society needs a vigorous Corresponding Secretary in each township.

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BARRY COUNTY

Barry County Pioneer Society

Officers

President.....	W. W. Potter, Hastings .
Vice President...	Charles A. Weissert, Hastings
Secretary-	
Treasurer.....	Mrs. Sarah Huffman (Died Apr. 20, 1916)
Historian.....	Clement Smith, Hastings

The members of the Society number about two hundred. Financial support is obtained by voluntary contributions. Meetings are held once a year, at a time and place fixed by the officers. The Society reports that it has compiled a history of Barry County, under the direction of the President, Mr. W. W. Potter; has marked with a monument the site of the American Fur Company's trading post at Bull's Prairie; and has collected many papers of historical interest. Mr. Charles A. Weissert has written several pamphlets and many newspaper articles, covering every place of early settlement in the townships. He has now in preparation a volume on the Indians of the Thorn-apple Valley. Mr. Weissert is a member of the Michigan House of Representatives and has helped greatly to secure needed legislation in behalf of the work of the State Society and Commission.

The following report has been received from a pioneer member of the Society:

"If the plans of the Barry County Society are carried out, monuments will be placed upon the site of the Yankee Springs tavern, of the old French block house on Scale's Prairie west of Middleville, of the Slater mission, and of the Indian cemetery in which are buried Chief Noonday (an associate of Tecumseh in the War of 1812) and a large number of the last organized remnant of Ottawa Indians in Michigan. The Society has been promised a donation of the sites of the French block house and

the Yankee Springs tavern, and there will probably be no difficulty in obtaining free sites of the other historic spots when they are asked for.

"During the last few years the programs of the society have been arranged according to a definite plan, which will ultimately result in the re-writing of various phases of history in Barry County. As almost all of the first settlers have passed on and those who survive are too feeble to remember important events, as much material as possible has been obtained from the younger men who recollect early events or who have a talent for remembering historical data. During the last five or six years there has been an awakening of interest in history in Barry County. Interest in local history was so roused in the city schools following addresses by Mrs. M. B. Ferry, of the State Historical Commission, that one book, "The Indians and Trading Posts in the Northwest of Barry County," written by Rep. Charles A. Weissert, vice-president of the Barry County Pioneer Society, was introduced and used as a supplementary text-book in history. Then followed a new history of Barry County by former Senator William W. Potter, president of the Society. Both of these books contained much new material, including the newly discovered Indian names for various bodies of water in the county and a great deal of detailed data concerning Barry County life in the early days.

"Papers prepared for the Pioneer Society programs have covered new ground in the county's history. Early hunting, the Indians, the stage roads and taverns, the early sawmills, the methods of travel, exciting adventures, glimpses of primitive life, have been included in these papers; as have also the lives of several men prominent in the county's earliest history, and glimpses of local society during the Civil War. As the dates of arrival of the early settlers in various townships, and other detailed data have been recorded in a history published about thirty-nine years ago, the Society is paying greater attention to the more picturesque phases of pioneer life; it is endeavoring to reproduce a sense of the life of those days, in all its hardships, its rugged enjoyments, its examples of unselfish, often heroic, and always unostentatious every-day life. The meetings have been

given an old-time flavor by the introduction for the first time of music played long ago, and unknown to the present generation. The vigorous and rousing tunes played on a violin recall to the pioneers the dances of their youth and charm the members of the younger generation, who have no opportunity to hear them unless by the old-time fiddler. Someone sings "Ben Bolt," "Juanita," or some other popular songs of the preceding generation. This old time music brings pleasant recollections to the old, and has all the effect of something new upon the present generation.

"The recent work of the Society has been to pick up the fragments of history, and to piece them together and present them today in the same manner that one might unearth and restore some of the fragments of a broken urn, regretting that they had not been unearthed before the missing fragments were scattered and lost for all time. The fragments of history that we pick up today will help us reconstruct the lives and times of those who made this State what it is. They were rugged, honest men, bent upon making homes for themselves and their families in the wilderness. We are enjoying the results of their works. Some of us have known these pioneers and loved them, and the faster time goes the more convinced we are that we ought to revive their memories and make real so far as possible for future generations their noble work."

(BARRY COUNTY—Continued)

Thornapple Valley Pioneer Association

Officers

President.....	Mr. E. J. McNaughton, Middleville
Vice President...	William McCrodan, Dutton
Secretary.....	Mrs. E. C. Apsey, Caledonia
Treasurer.....	J. W. Stone, Caledonia

This society is one of the oldest in this part of Michigan, having been organized in 1885. It held its thirty-first annual meeting last February in Caledonia, when special attention was paid to marking historic sites. The following communication relative to

marking sites of historic interest along the old stage road is from Hon. Charles Weissert, of Hastings:

"Michigan has been backward in this work of marking historic sites. Our people of New England and New York ancestry, especially should recognize the importance of this work. It has more than a sentimental interest, being a matter of civic pride and of economic value. We should make our highways attractive to all who enjoy the cultural associations with the past. We all know the added pleasure of an automobile trip along New England and New York highways given by the sense of our presence on the very spots where historic houses have stood, or where historic events have taken place. Our old stage road was very important in the development of western Michigan. We should mark the sites of the old taverns and historic buildings while yet we can locate them accurately."

A discussion followed, and it was proposed to start a fund for the purpose of erecting markers at points to be decided upon later by the Association. A subscription of \$5.50 was raised for the purpose at this meeting, subscribed by the President and Vice President.

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#### BERRIEN COUNTY

##### Berrien County Pioneer and Historical Association

##### Officers

President.....Erastus Murphy, Berrien Center  
Secretary and  
Treasurer.....B. F. Mars, Berrien Springs  
Historian.....Erastus Murphy

The meetings of this Society are held annually on the second Wednesday in June. Its records extend over nearly forty years. Attention is now given to gathering data respecting the deaths of pioneers from year to year. It would be equally valuable service if the Society would collect the private manuscripts scattered in pioneer homes about the county.

## BRANCH COUNTY

## Historical Society of Branch County

## Officers

President.....	Rev. Henry P. Collin, Coldwater
Vice President...	Mr. W. Glenn Cowell, Coldwater
Secretary.....	Hon. Henry E. Straight, Coldwater
Treasurer.....	Mr. Melton W. Wimer, Coldwater
Historian.....	Rev. Henry P. Collin, Coldwater

The financial support of this Society is obtained by contributions. The amount of \$50 is received from the Supervisors for binding county papers. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday in January at Coldwater. The Society has gathered and bound many files of early county papers; has written a history of the county; and is continually on the watch for manuscripts and other historical material, reports of which are sent to the Historical Commission at Lansing.

## CALHOUN COUNTY

## The Battle Creek Historical Society

## Officers

President.....	Edward C. Hinman
Vice Presidents..	George B. Willard
	Edward Austin
	Miles Curtis
	Howard B. Sherman
	Walter L. Raynes
Historian.....	Forest G. Sweet
Curator.....	J. H. Brown
Secretary-	
Treasurer....	Charles H. Wheelock

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors, the Secretary of this Society was instructed to extend a cordial invitation to the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, to hold the midwinter



meeting of 1917 in Battle Creek; this invitation was accepted, and a joint meeting was held there on January 25 and 26, which resulted in the movement to organize the Calhoun County Historical Society.

The Historian, Forest G. Sweet, has been furnishing historical items to the local papers for some years. Mr. J. H. Brown has gathered some fine pictures of persons and scenes in Calhoun County, from which he has made lantern slides. Mr. L. B. Anderson, a very enthusiastic member of the Society, stirred up much interest in the early history of the city by offering three five dollar prizes, as follows: five dollars to the oldest person living, wherever now residing, who was born in Battle Creek—this prize to determine who is the oldest native son or daughter of Battle Creek; five dollars to the oldest living resident of Battle Creek, regardless of birthplace or length of residence in the city; and five dollars to the person who has the longest continuous residence in Battle Creek, whether or not now a resident of the city. The contest closed June 1, 1917.

Each week the Battle Creek Enquirer contains the report of an interview with one of the oldest residents; and these items are clipped for a Historical Society scrap book, which will become more interesting and valuable as the years go by.

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(CALHOUN COUNTY—Continued)

Calhoun County Historical Society

Officers

President.....	(To be elected)
Vice President...	W. J. Dibble, Marshall,
Recording Sec'y..	Miss Anna Marshall, Marshall
Cor. Secretary...	J. H. Brown, Battle Creek
Curator.....	Mrs. W. R. Lewis, Marshall
Township Vice Presidents	
Perry Mayo, Marengo Twp.	
Mrs. E. W. Randall, Tekonsha Twp.	
Mrs. W. H. Cortwright, Homer Twp.	

Mrs. A. H. Miller, Athens Twp.  
Thomas Lane, Convis Twp.  
Delos Fall, Albion (city) Twp.  
Charles H. Wheelock, Battle Creek (city)

This Society was organized at a meeting held in the Library Building at Marshall, on Saturday, March 3, 1917. It is one of the fruits of the fine spirit aroused at the joint meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society and the Battle Creek Historical Society at Battle Creek last January. A great work is expected from this Society, which is internally organized along the most modern lines, and closely affiliated with the State Society and Commission.

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CASS COUNTY

Cass County Pioneer Society

Officers

President.....John A. Root, Dowagiac  
James G. Hayden, Cassopolis  
Secretary.....J. Boyd Thomas, Cassopolis

This Society was organized in 1873 at Cassopolis, being one of the oldest in Michigan; but few meetings have been held for the past three or four years. The president reports that although at one time the Society was very vigorous, it is now extremely difficult to arouse interest. The question arises, why should it now be difficult to arouse historical interest in a county which is one of the earliest settled and most historic spots in the Lower Peninsula, with civic pride equal to any. Would not the problem be solved if the membership were to take hold and organize a vigorous and effective historical work? An immediate response should be found in the hearts of the people.

## CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

## Charlevoix Historical Society

## Officers

President.....	Mr. Brayton Saltonstall, Charlevoix
1st Vice President..	Mrs. H. C. Cooper
2d Vice President..	Mrs. R. W. Paddock, Charlevoix
Secretary.....	Miss Mary E. Clarke, Charlevoix
Asst. Sec'y.....	Miss Addie Halley
Treasurer.....	Mr. A. F. Bridge, Charlevoix

Regular meetings are held bi-monthly, on Friday evenings, from October to April. An annual announcement is published, containing besides the subject of study for the year a list of officers, reports of the meetings, and the constitution and by-laws. More emphasis is to be placed by the Society upon the rich local history of the region. It is felt that a County Historical Society should be organized to aid in this work.

## CLINTON COUNTY

## The Clinton County Pioneer Society

## Officers

President.....	Theodore H. Townsend, St. Johns
Vice President...	Jerome Dills, Dewitt
Secretary.....	Mrs. C. L. Pearce, Dewitt
Treasurer.....	J. T. Daniels, St. Johns
Chairman of	
Obituary Com.	Mrs. Abbie E. Dills, Dewitt

This Society was organized in St. Johns on January 15, 1874, with Cortland Hill, of Bengal, as the first President. For many years each member was charged the sum of 25c on joining; but a few years ago it was voted to assess the head of each family 25c per annum to cover the annual expenses of the Society. An annual meeting is held in St. Johns in June, and a picnic in August; these are the only meetings of the Society. A few years ago

historians were appointed, one in each township to get facts and incidents of early pioneer days, an excellent custom which should be revived, and the search for historical material renewed.

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DELTA COUNTY

The Delta County Pioneer and Historical Society

Officers

President.....	The Very Rev. Francis X. Barth, M. A., LL.D., Dean of Delta County
Vice President...	F. E. King, Supt. of Schools, Escanaba
Secretary.....	Miss Lura Brubaker, Librarian, Escanaba Public Library
Historians.....	Mrs. S. W. Brennan Miss E. M. Griffith G. T. Werline

This Society was organized in 1916. It has at present nearly one hundred members. The meetings are held in the Carnegie Library at Escanaba. Considerable work has already been done. A joint meeting was held with the State Society in October, 1916, the first held by the State organization in the Upper Peninsula. This meeting aroused interest destined to inaugurate a new era in historical work above the Straits.

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EATON COUNTY

Eaton County Pioneer Society

Officers

President.....	Ernest G. Pray, Charlotte
Secretary.....	Mary J. Ward, Charlotte
Treasurer.....	A. B. Barnum, Charlotte

A report received from Mr. Ernest G. Pray states that a deep interest is felt throughout the county for the county pioneer society, and that the meetings are well attended. About twenty-five years ago the pioneers built a typical log cabin at Charlotte

on the fair grounds, about 30 x 40 feet, which is the only monument the Society has yet raised. The old historic spots in the county are as yet unmarked. The membership of the Society numbers about 500. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday in August. Nothing could do so much to help keep in mind for the coming generation the debt owing to the pioneers as the honoring of the old landmarks by erecting appropriate markers.

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EMMET COUNTY

## Emmet County Historical Society

## Officers

President.....	H. S. Babcock, Harbor Springs
Vice President...	B. T. Halstead, Petoskey
Secretary.....	Mrs. E. E. Cross, Petoskey
Treasurer.....	Mrs. Charles Aldrich, Petoskey
Historian.....	Mrs. A. B. Backus, Petoskey

This Society was organized on New Year's Day, 1914, and has done very active work in gathering data for the history of Emmet County. So active was this work that the State Pioneer and Historical Society held its first meeting in the northern part of the Peninsula jointly with this Society Feb. 24 and 25, 1916.

In the organization of the Society, special acknowledgment is due to Mrs. E. E. Cross, the efficient President of the Emmet County Federation of Women's Clubs, and Mrs. Ethel Rowan Fasquelle, chairman of the historical committee of the same organization. The plan adopted was that outlined by the Michigan Historical Commission in its Bulletin No. 2. The first President was Judge C. J. Pailthorp of Petoskey. The first public meeting was held on Washington's Birthday, 1914, in Petoskey, with more than 100 members and guests present.

The only membership requirement is residence in Emmet County, and payment of annual dues. The annual meeting is held on New Year's Day or on Washington's Birthday. Many papers of great value have been read at the meetings, printed copies of which have been clipped from the local newspapers

and sent to the office of the State Historical Commission for permanent filing. At the last meeting, held Feb. 14, 1917, the Society voted to secure the poll list of 1874, the year in which the State Pioneer and Historical Society was organized, and send a copy of the same to the Michigan Historical Commission. Regular and full reports of all meetings are sent to the Commission at Lansing, through the efficient Secretary of the Society, Mrs. E. E. Cross.

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GENESEE COUNTY

The Genesee County Historical Society

Officers

President.....	Miss Helen V. Walker, (deceased)
Vice President...	Hon. Fenton R. McCreary, Flint
Secretary.....	William V. Smith, Flint
Treasurer.....	Edwin O. Wood, New York City
Curator.....	Mr. F. H. Rankin, Flint

The Historical Society of Genesee County was organized December 13, 1913. It has about one hundred and sixty members. The meetings are held annually in Flint. It has gathered an excellent ethnological, archeological and historical collection which has been well arranged in a suitable room of the Flint Public Library. This Society is an outgrowth of the Genesee County Pioneer Society which for many years did excellent work.

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HOUGHTON COUNTY

Keweenaw Historical Society

(Includes Houghton, Baraga, Keweenaw and Ontonagon counties)

Officers

President.....	J. T. Reeder, Houghton
Secretary-	
Treasurer.....	J. A. Doelle, Houghton

Executive Com... E. S. Grierson, Calumet  
L. A. Chase, M. A., Houghton  
A. F. Fischer, M. D., Quincy

From Prof. Lew Allen Chase, of the Houghton High School, has been received the following report:

"The fifth annual meeting of the Keweenaw Historical Society was held in Houghton, March 14, 1917. The large attendance from all parts of the Copper Country manifested wide-spread and continued interest in the activities of the Society. Hitherto, meetings have been held at the Houghton Public Library, but this one took place in the assembly room of the Houghton High School, in order that the expected increased attendance might be provided for.

"Mrs. M. B. Ferrey, Curator of the Michigan Historical Museum at Lansing, was present, and her exhibit of old-time costumes, in which girls of the High School assisted as demonstrators, attracted much attention and favorable comment. The ladies of the Copper Country had also prepared a display of gowns and other habiliments preserved from pioneer days in the district.

"Rev. Fr. A. J. Rézek, historian of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, gave an historical account of his old mission at L'Anse and the labors of Father (later Bishop) Frederic Baraga. Alfred Nichols, now Superintendent of the Osceola Township schools, read sketches of the life of the Cornish miners of this district, with which in his earlier years he had an opportunity to become very familiar. The Cornish miners constitute an extremely picturesque feature of the human factor in the copper district of Michigan.

"At the business meeting, the former officers of the Society, most of whom have been connected with it since its organization, were re-elected. J. T. Reeder of Houghton, collector of a remarkable group of native copper implements produced by Indians and housed in a fire-proof room at his home, remains President of the Society; while J. A. Doelle, Superintendent of Schools, Houghton, continues as Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Doelle has



been most assiduous in acquiring funds for the collecting of material, and in expending them wisely. The executive committee consists of E. S. Grierson of Calumet, L. A. Chase, M. A., of Houghton, and A. F. Fischer, M. D., of Quincy (to succeed Hon. Charles Smith of Hubbell, deceased).

"The annual meetings of the Keweenaw Historical Society occur on the second Wednesday in March, but two summer meetings have taken place: one (1913) being an historical pilgrimage to the location of the old Cliff Mine—one of the oldest in the district—situated in Keweenaw County; and another (1916), a similar excursion in the opposite direction to Rockland in Ontonagon County, where are to be seen the locations of the old Michigan and other mines, together with surface workings of Indian miners before the advent of the whites. Both locations were occupied in the fifth decade of the last century. Oct. 10, 1914, the members of the Society sojourned to Eagle River, to be present at the unveiling of a monument to Dr. Douglass Houghton, first Geologist of Michigan, who lost his life in a storm on Lake Superior not far from the site of the monument, in 1845. State Geologist R. C. Allen and Railroad Commissioner L. T. Hemans were present and delivered addresses. The monument was erected through the joint efforts of the Keweenaw Historical Society and the Home Fortnightly Club of Calumet.

"The main efforts of the Society have been directed to the acquisition of remains—literary and otherwise—bearing on the history of the copper district of Michigan. A list of documents of various kinds now in the possession of the Society is published in this number of the Michigan History Magazine and will show what success has been achieved by the Society in this direction. There are many other items in the collection that have not been catalogued. The most important however appear on this list.

"Since its organization the Society has expended for books \$934.99; for postage, printing, Douglass, Houghton monument fund, picnics, etc., \$424.50. The total expenditure is thus \$1,359.49. These funds accrue from the annual membership of \$1, and seven life memberships at \$50 each. The sum of \$332.88

came from the mining companies of the district for the purchase of a valuable collection of reports of mining companies dating from the period prior to 1870. During the past year there were acquired 476 mining companies' reports, 146 books and 28 pamphlets. The list of donations to the Society is also extensive. March 14, 1917, the number of members of the Society was 136, which includes only those persons whose dues were paid.

"The Keweenaw Historical Society is incorporated under the laws of Michigan. It was founded May 16, 1912. The occasion of its founding was a lecture tour in the Copper Country by Prof. C. H. Van Tyne, of the University of Michigan. Years before, there had been an Historical Society in the district, which had devoted itself, as was said, to the history of everything and every country except the Copper Country. The new organization has devoted itself exclusively to local history. Its collection is housed in the Houghton Public Library.

"Elements in the success of the Keweenaw Historical Society have been an active secretary, who most diligently promotes the objects of the Society, both as regards the raising of necessary funds and their expenditure exclusively for material or other immediate objects of the Society; and secondly a close working arrangement between the Houghton school, Public Library, and the Keweenaw Historical Society. These happen to be under the same management—a fact which has proven very advantageous. The Houghton Public Library in which the Society's collection is housed, also possesses valuable historical works placed in proximity to the books belonging to the Society. These include Thwaites' *Jesuit Relations* (complete) and *Early Western Travels*. The collections published by the Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois Historical Societies are likewise owned and will continue to be received in the future. Pupils in history and civics at the Houghton High School, while clipping newspapers for the acquisition of material for class use, preserve obituary notices of persons of interest to the region and other items of local historical interest. An historical survey by the school children of the Houghton schools, has been planned. An historical pageant was given by these pupils in the spring of 1916. In preparing for this

the books of the Historical Society were useful. This collection also permits special studies and investigations of phases of local history; it has been used in the study of local history in the schools; and it is available for mining companies and others having a business or professional interest in the past of the region. It has already been used in certain instances in this way. Several mines have been in operation for over half a century, and some still older are being re-opened; it sometimes becomes important to know what exploratory or mining operations were carried on at the inception of the industry. The historical collection may thus have more than a sentimental interest to mine operators, and to the district which owes so much to the success of mining operations.

"At its recent meeting, the Keweenaw Historical Society voted a resolution favoring a liberal appropriation by the legislature for the support of the Michigan Historical Commission, and invited the State Society to meet in Houghton during the coming summer."

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#### HURON COUNTY

##### Huron County Pioneer and Historical Society

##### Officers

President.....W. T. Bope, Bad Axe  
Vice President...Mrs. R. Gwinn, Pigeon  
Sec'y and Treas..Mrs. Florence M. Gwinn, Pigeon

This Society is one of the most vigorous of the younger associations, having been organized in 1914. It has over one hundred members. Meetings are held in May and August annually. The pioneer reminiscences given at the meetings are taken in shorthand and preserved for a history of the county which the Society has planned. A midwinter meeting is proposed for the coming year. Meetings are usually held at Bad Axe. Governor Albert E. Sleeper was the first President of this Society, and one of its original promoters.

The following report was made by Mrs. Grace Greenwood Browne, Secretary of the Huron County Pioneer and Historical Society, at the annual meeting in Lansing, May, 1916:

"As a means of interesting the citizens of Huron County in its pioneer and historic features, of impressing on their minds correct and lasting conceptions of the real significance of the historical events connected with the county, and of laying a foundation for a more earnest pursuit of the subject, a call was sent out by Hon. Albert E. Sleeper, George E. English and Mrs. Grace Greenwood Browne, committee on temporary organization, for pioneers and all others interested to meet at the Tribune Hall, Bad Axe, Friday, May 21, 1915 at 1:30 p. m. for the purpose of organizing a Pioneer and Historical Society for Huron County.

"A large number were present at the meeting, including several from Harbor Beach, Port Austin, Caseville and distant townships of the county. Mrs. Marie B. Ferrey of Lansing, Curator of the State Historical Museum and chairman of the historical department of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, was present to give necessary information and to assist in launching a much needed pioneer society in this portion of "The Thumb."

"Upon motion, the chairman, Hon. A. E. Sleeper, named the following committee on permanent organization: W. T. Bope, C. D. Thompson, John Maywood, Mrs. Charlotte Cooper, and Mrs. Grace Greenwood Browne. Permanent officers elected were W. T. Bope of Bad Axe, president; Mrs. R. Gwinn of Caseville, first vice president; Mrs. Grace Greenwood Browne of Harbor Beach, secretary and treasurer; together with a vice president and a corresponding secretary from each township in the county. Harbor Beach and Bad Axe are represented by four committeemen. At this meeting forty charter members were enrolled.

"The second meeting of the society was held June 30, at Bad Axe, at which time arrangements were made for a pioneer basket picnic to be held at the county seat Tuesday, August 10. The picnic upon the above named date proved a big success, several hundred were present and forty-seven new names were added to the membership list. Both young and old were much interested

and there was every indication that the meeting would prove a source of much benefit to the Society. A fine program was given, almost exclusively by the old pioneers. All enjoyed the rare entertainment, also the delightful spread which followed. At this meeting Hon. A. E. Sleeper presented to the Society a magnificent hand-painted pioneer banner, the gift of Mrs. Sleeper.

"A call for the fourth meeting of the Society was published in all of the county papers under dates of Nov. 12 and 19, the meeting to take place Dec. 9, 1915, in the city of Bad Axe. One particularly interesting feature of this occasion was the presence of Mrs. Maria Trescott Luddington, the first white woman settler in Sand Beach Township, who, together with her husband, gave the name to Sand Beach, now Harbor Beach, one of our most prosperous cities.

"Mrs. Luddington is a dear little lady now past eighty-two years of age, who has resided in Huron County sixty-six years. When she and her young husband came there to live, man had not disturbed its primeval condition; hence Mrs. Luddington is a pioneer of the pioneers. At the above meeting she was given an ovation and her presence added much to make all feel the important part played by our first settlers.

"Since the organization of the Society, much pioneer data has been secured, which the editors of the county papers have been exceedingly kind in publishing. More than that, they are taking a special interest in helping all committeemen connected with the Society to get before the public the pioneer history of our county.

"We now have a membership roll of eighty-seven, and before the years shall divide the families of those who live, we earnestly trust we shall have preserved the records of their work for future generations."

## INGHAM COUNTY

## The Ingham County Pioneer and Historical Society

## Officers

President.....	L. H. Ives, Mason, R. F. D. 1
Secretary.....	Mrs. Franc L. Adams, Mason
Treasurer.....	W. M. Webb, Mason, R. F. D. 6

This Society has one hundred and fifty members. Twenty-five cents is paid by each member as annual dues. The meetings are held at Mason the second Tuesday in June.

The following report was read by Mrs. Franc L. Adams, Secretary of the Society, at the annual meeting in Lansing, May, 1916:

"Early in the year, as secretary of Ingham County Historical and Pioneer Society, I began a search for items of historic interest in Ingham County with the thought of entering them on our records for the benefit of future generations. I was particularly interested in trying to locate the Indian trails in the county, and also in getting the names of as many soldiers of the War of 1812 as possible. I had no thought of finding the grave of a Revolutionary soldier, for it seems to have been accepted as a fact that there was none in Ingham County. Notwithstanding this, I inserted a query along that line every time I sent out a letter asking for information, and I am happy to say that my perseverance was at last rewarded; I am able to describe to you the last resting place of a Revolutionary soldier in a little country cemetery in Onondaga Township. Mr. H. D. Baldwin, who lives near the cemetery, wrote me about it, and I afterward went there for the express purpose of seeing it for myself. This is one of the prettiest rural cemeteries I ever saw, so clean, and with forest trees scattered through the grounds. In one corner is a plat of ground fenced off, which contains a plain marble shaft and some ten or twelve short markers, all in memory of some member of the Champe family. The monument has on one side two swords, crossed, and beneath is this inscription: "John Champe. An officer in the Revolution."

"Mr. Champe was at one time a slave-holder in Virginia, but

at an early day he moved to Detroit, where he died. His son, Nathaniel Champe, migrated to Onondaga; after his death his son and daughter went to Detroit and disinterred the remains of their relatives, among them John Champe, of Revolutionary fame, and moved them, with the monument and markers to the Baldwin cemetery where they now are.

"There is a bit of history of later date concerning the Champe family, which Mr. Baldwin tells. He is the oldest native born resident of Onondaga Township, and he had the story from his mother who was an intimate friend of the heroine of the tale. When the wife of Nathaniel Champe was a young girl, during the War of 1812, she went through the British lines as a spy, where she gained a complete knowledge of the enemy's strength and position, scratching it on birch bark with a pin and hiding it in the hem of her skirts. She was arrested, but on account of her extreme youth was allowed to return to her friends. She too is buried in this little Onondaga cemetery where repose the remains of seven heroes of 1812. My research in regard to soldiers of the War of 1812 has brought me the names and burial places of twenty, and I have no doubt that one could locate as many more if the work were continued.

"Mr. Baldwin proved a regular treasure-trove of historical facts. He tells of two Indian trails, one from the mouth of Sandstone creek down the west side of Grand River to Eaton Rapids, and another running from Eaton Rapids southeasterly across the Montgomery Plains, traversing the Baldwin farm, then on through to Bateese and Pleasant Lakes in Jackson County.

"Dr. Edwin Finch, a former Ingham County resident, locates the "great through trail," termed in early days the "Mackinack Trail," which passed his father's house in Alaiedon Township, at the southeast corner of section 14. Near there the trail turned to the northeast so that the low ground was avoided, and continued to the Red Cedar river where was a well-known ford one mile below the Red bridge. When he was a boy, after the cows in the darkness, he always found his bearings when his feet dropped into the trail, which was fully eight inches below the general surface, and worn smooth by the tramping of feet of Indians and



ponies for centuries. "The bottom was covered with the finest, softest, most velvety grass my hands ever touched," says Dr. Finch, "and as it has never been found elsewhere, scientists designate it as 'Moccasin Grass.'" During the last twenty-five years the trail so well known along the top of the hogsback in Mason, has been entirely obliterated by men who in their greed for money have commercialized that picturesque landmark.

"Last year it was voted at the annual meeting of the Ingham County Historical and Pioneer society to mark some historic spot during the year. Among the things suggested were: to erect a marker at the place where N. I. Wolcott of this city was born, two miles south of Mason, as Mr. Wolcott was the first white child born in Vevay Township; another was to mark the first Ingham County court-house, now occupied as a dwelling. Neither has yet been done.

"A Vice President was appointed for each township in the county, and these I asked to report the death of any who had lived in the county for fifty years. A few responded, and I have the names of sixty-four who have watched Ingham County's growth for that length of time.

"A strenuous effort was made to get a room in the court-house at Mason in which to start a county historical museum, but the board of supervisors refused to entertain the plan proposed, and it was dropped for the time being. It was thought that to have a room where school children from the surrounding country could come in a body on stated days and hear the stories of the relics of pioneer times, would prove very instructive. It was then that the Society found that the hardest part of such a proposition is to create a sentiment in its favor."

## IOSCO COUNTY

## The Iosco County Gleaner Federation

## Officers

President.....John Frasier, Tawas City

Vice President...Lewis Nunn, Hale

Secretary and

Treasurer.....Jane Slosser, Hale

Historian.....Nellie Jennings, Hale

This Society has about sixty members, and is supported by annual dues. The meetings are held quarterly with the different Gleaner Arbors. The Iosco County *Gazette* gives the following purpose of the meeting held June 6, 1916, at Hale: "The meeting of the Iosco County Gleaner Federation is for the purpose of getting together the pioneers of the county, listening to their experiences and collecting written accounts of their struggles in the early days. It is desired that a record of these pioneers may be furnished to the Michigan Historical Commission to aid in the future history of the county." Augustus C. Carton, President of the State Pioneer and Historical Society and a member of the Michigan Historical Commission, is a member of the Gleaners.

## LIVINGSTON COUNTY

## Livingston County Pioneer Association

The last meeting of this Society was held on August 29, 1911. The last president was Arthur Montague, and secretary, C. H. Miner. No definite records have been kept showing the number of members. Livingston is among the earliest counties settled in the State and should have one of the best historical societies.

## MACOMB COUNTY

## The Macomb County Pioneer Society

This society was organized in 1882, at Washington, and for thirty years held very successful meetings. It has held no meeting

since 1911. Amil J. E. Day, the last Secretary, reports that during its existence many interesting and valuable pioneer and historical items were collected, but that owing to the passing of the pioneers and the coming of a new generation, largely foreigners, its continuance as originally organized became impossible. Albert Yates was the Society's last President. The Society should be at once reorganized for collecting historical materials. No county in the State has a more splendid opportunity for historical service than has this historic county.

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MANISTEE COUNTY

The Lakeside Club

Officers

President.....	Mrs. Charles H. Morey, Manistee
Vice President...	Mrs. Edward Wheeler, Manistee
Secretary.....	Mrs. William Lloyd, Manistee
Treasurer.....	Mrs. J. M. Peterson, Manistee
Historian.....	Mrs. Edward Wheeler, Manistee

The membership of the Club is seventy, and the financial support is from dues of members. Meetings are held every other Monday at the Library. This Society has been encouraging the writing of local history by awarding prizes for essays written by pupils in the schools. It has a fine opportunity to launch a Manistee County Historical Society, of which Manistee would be the natural head. The whole county should become interested in the historical work of the Club.

## MUSKEGON COUNTY

## Muskegon County Pioneer and Historical Society

## Officers

President.....	James L. Smith, Muskegon
Vice President...	Charles L. Buzzell, Twin Lake
Secretary.....	John C. Beukema, Muskegon, care <i>The Chronicle</i>
Treasurer.....	Mrs. David Hewitt, 103 Peck St., Muskegon

The membership in this Society totals about one hundred and fifty. Fifty cents is paid by each member once a year. The meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Court House. Papers have been read for which valuable historical and biographical sketches are secured each year and preserved for future reference. In connection with the Chamber of Commerce the Society is arranging to publish a history of the county. This is a most worthy undertaking, if it can be carried out thoroughly and accurately.

## NEWAYGO COUNTY

## Newaygo County Pioneer Society

## Officers

President.....	J. H. Edwards, Newaygo
Secretary.....	Winnifred Grey, Newaygo
Treasurer.....	George Fry, Newaygo
Historian.....	Fannie Raider, Fremont

This Society has about one hundred members. Financial support is obtained from a membership fee of 25c, and annual dues of 25c. The meetings are held annually at various places in the county. The Historian has preserved brief sketches of the lives of old settlers, also many papers which have been read at the meetings. A live Corresponding Secretary should be appointed for each township.

## OAKLAND COUNTY

## The Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society

## Officers

President.....	Joseph S. Stockwell, Pontiac
Vice President.....	R. A. Parker, Royal Oak
2d Vice President..	M. A. Leggett, Drayton
3d Vice President..	Mrs. A. L. Craft, Pontiac
Secretary.....	Mrs. Lillian Drake Avery, Pontiac
Treasurer.....	H. O. Whitfield, Pontiac

The membership numbers about six hundred. The financial support is voluntary. Meetings are held in Pontiac on February 22 of each year. The work has been of a general nature, but preparation for the recent Centennial Celebration has brought to light a great deal of valuable historical material. To preserve the momentum gained by this event is one of the Society's first duties, and it is in good hands. This number of the Magazine contains a sketch of the Centennial, by Mrs. L. D. Avery.

## ROSCOMMON COUNTY

## The St. Helen Community Club

President.....	Mrs. John Carter
Sec.-Treas.....	Mrs. S. A. Nichols

This organization is gathering data for local history. Hitherto, attempts to gather data from early pioneers of the county and to establish a County Society have been unsuccessful. Mrs. John Carter has suggested that a number of persons be appointed in different communities in the county to report to the Historical Commission as to the gathering of historical materials. A County Historical Society is needed, and this Club is endeavoring to arouse an interest throughout the county to effect such an organization.

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY

## St. Clair County Pioneer and Historical Society

## Officers

President.....	W. L. Jenks, Port Huron
Vice President.....	Mrs. Jane M. Kinney, Port Huron
Secretary.....	George W. Howe, Port Huron
Treasurer.....	Alex. Moore, Port Huron

This Society was organized November 16, 1875, and after doing active work for a few years fell into a comatose condition, but was reorganized May 16, 1882, and since then has had an active existence with yearly meetings and frequently valuable historical papers.

Meetings are held the last Tuesday in June, generally in Port Huron, but occasionally at other places in the county. By resolution adopted a few years ago, the Public Library at Port Huron was made the permanent depository of the books and papers of the Society, and a considerable collection of very interesting old papers, letters and documents has been made. The late Senator Thomas W. Palmer presented a large number of letters written to his father by residents of St. Clair County covering the period 1825-1843. Another valuable item consists of letters to Hon. John Clarke, a member of the first Constitutional Convention, and State Senator for several years.

Practically the only condition of membership of the Society is residence in the County for twenty-five years, with entrance fee of \$1.00—no annual dues.

## ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

## The St. Joseph County Pioneer and Historical Society

## Officers

President.....Dr. Marden Sabin, Centreville

Vice Presidents.. One from each township

Secretary and

Treasurer.....Frank S. Cummings

The membership is made up of those who have resided in the county twenty years. Financial support is from voluntary contributions made at the annual meetings, which are held the second Wednesday in June. The place of meeting is usually Centreville, but may be at any place in the county approved by the Executive Committee.

Much work has been done in keeping historical interest alive and by making the annual meeting one of the big days in the county fairs, when reports of these meetings are made. Through the efforts of the Women's Federation, a county museum has been started in the court-house, which has made phenomenal progress and is destined to become an important feature of the work. Several pioneer museums have been started independently of the Historical Society.

## SHIAWASSEE COUNTY

## Shiawassee Pioneer Society

## Officers

President.....Clark D. Smith, Corunna

Sec'y and Treas..J. D. Royce, Corunna

Historian.....J. D. Leland, Corunna

This Society has about 100 members, though recently the record of deaths has not been carefully kept. The meetings are held on Feb. 22 at the court-house in Corunna. Fees on joining the Society are one dollar for men, ladies free; there are no dues. Through the influence of the Society, the United States flag is



always displayed in the court-room when court is in session, and the clerk presents every naturalized citizen with a small United States flag when he receives his papers. Special praise is due to the historical work of Mr. J. D. Leland.

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TRI-COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Officers

President.....E. F. Sawyer, Cadillac  
Secretary.....Will A. McDowell, Tustin  
Treasurer.....Fred Rock, Cadillac  
Historian.....Perry F. Powers, Cadillac

This Society, which has been in existence only two years, has a membership of about one hundred. A membership fee of one dollar is asked of each member. Meetings are held in Cadillac in February, and generally in the summer. There is much work to be done, and much is to be hoped from this vigorous beginning.

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VAN BUREN COUNTY

Van Buren County Pioneer Association

Officers

President.....Charles J. Monroe, South Haven  
Vice President...O. W. Rowland, Paw Paw  
Secretary.....I. P. Bates, Paw Paw  
Treasurer.....Arthur Jennings, Lawrence

In this Society, organized in 1872, every township of the county is well represented. The annual meeting is held in June. The dues are voluntary. Much work has been done in other years, but the feeling is general that the Society needs reorganizing along lines of collecting historical materials.

## WASHTENAW COUNTY

## Washtenaw Pioneer and Historical Society

## Officers

President.....W. H. Sweet, Ypsilanti  
Secretary.....Robert Campbell, Ann Arbor  
Treasurer.....O. C. Burkhart, Chelsea

Vice Presidents, one from each township, also one each from the cities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

A report received from Secretary Robert Campbell states that the Society has about 800 members on record, but that within the last ten years it has ceased to enroll members, as all are made welcome to attend. The fees and annual dues have been placed at 25c each, which of late years also pays for the annual dinner. Meetings are held annually, on the second Wednesday in June. The meeting in 1917 was held at Ypsilanti.

The society was organized Aug. 13, 1873, and the articles of association were filed with the Secretary of State on Feb. 2, 1876. It is thus one of the oldest of the county societies. Its most valuable collections, bound volumes of newspapers, etc., have been deposited in the University library.

## HISTORICAL WORK

### DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION OF MICHIGAN, 1915-16

#### ALLEGAN COUNTY

Hannah McIntosh Cady Chapter, Allegan.

##### Sites Marked:

Toll Gates on Old Plank Road, Allegan Co., at Plainwell and Allegan.

Daughter of Revolutionary Soldier,

Mrs. Helen M. Barrett, is an active member of the Chapter;

Mrs. Barrett was an Honor Guest at the State Conference of the Daughters held in Ann Arbor, Oct. 17-19, 1916.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.

#### BARRY COUNTY

Emily Virginia Mason Chapter, Hastings.

Site marked: contributed to Barry County Pioneer Society towards marker for Old French Trading Post.

#### BAY COUNTY

Anne Frisby Fitzhugh Chapter, Bay City.

Assisted State Prize Essay Contest.

#### BERRIEN COUNTY

Algonquin Chapter, St. Joseph & Benton Harbor.

Sites Marked: Old Territorial Road, Benton Harbor; Terminal, Old Territorial Road, St. Joseph.

Both sites marked Oct. 22, 1915.

Revolutionary Soldiers' Graves:

Rufus Earle, Barren Lake Cemetery;

Henry Lybrook, Shurte Cemetery, LaGrange Twp., Cass Co.

Abraham Huff, Shurte Cemetery, LaGrange Twp., Cass Co. These three graves were marked by Chapter, Oct. 2, 1916.

Promoted State Prize Essay Contest.  
Contributed to Endowment fund of Old Pohick Church, Va.,  
(Washington's Old Church).  
Celebrated Michigan's Birthday.  
Fort St. Joseph Chapter, Niles.  
Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.

## CALHOUN COUNTY

Hannah Tracy Grant Chapter, Albion.  
Contributed to Michigan, Panel in Washington Memorial  
Chapel, Valley Forge.  
Battle Creek Chapter, Battle Creek.  
Revolutionary Soldiers' Graves marked:  
Southmayd Guernsey, North Sherwood Cemetery.  
Isaac Hickman, Battle Creek Cemetery.  
Graves marked May 13, 1916.  
Assisted State Prize Essay contest.  
Charity Cook Chapter, Homer.  
Revolutionary Soldiers' Grave:  
Elijah B. Cook, Sr. Buried in Cook's Cemetery. Twp.  
of Clarendon. Grave marked by Chapter, June 17, 1916.  
Revolutionary Soldier's Daughter's Grave:  
Charity Lockwood Cook, wife of Elijah B. Cook, Sr.  
Buried in Cook's Cemetery, Twp. of Clarendon. Grave  
marked by Chapter, June 17, 1916.  
Pamphlet,  
"Descendants of Elijah B. Cook, Sr., and Charity Lock-  
wood Cook," compiled and published by Mrs. Wm. H.  
Cortright, Regent of Chapter.  
Mary Marshall Chapter, Marshall.  
Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.

## EMMET COUNTY

Pe-to-se-ga Chapter, Petoskey.  
Lecture on early Indians of Northern Mich., by John C.  
Wright, given before schools.  
Float in Historical Pageant;  
Michigan Birthday exercises in schools;

Marked old Indian Trail, July 4, 1916;  
Fostered State Prize Essay Contest;  
Presented State Flag to High School, June 14, 1916.

## GENESEE COUNTY

Genesee Chapter, Flint.

Revolutionary Soldier's Grave:

Altamont Donaldson. Buried at Fenton, Genesee Co.,  
Mich. Grave marked by Chapter Sept. 20, 1915.

## GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Job Winslow Chapter, Traverse City.

Revolutionary Soldier's Daughter:

Mrs. Eliza Jane Winslow Lind.

Daughter of Job Winslow, Died May 26, 1916.

Grave marked by Chapter May, 1916.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest. Result, Harold Sherman received Second State Prize for towns over 10,000 inhabitants.

## HILLSDALE COUNTY

Ann Gridley Chapter, Hillsdale.

Assisted State Prize Essay Contest.

Contributed to Michigan Panel, Washington Chapel, Valley Forge.

## INGHAM COUNTY

Lansing Chapter, Lansing.

Papers:

Historical and Genealogical papers of Champe Family found.

Elijah Grout Chapter, Leslie.

Contributed to Endowment Fund Old Pohick Church, Va.

## IONIA COUNTY

Stevens Thomson Mason Chapter, Ionia.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.

Celebrated Michigan's Birthday.

## JACKSON COUNTY

Sarah Treat Prudden Chapter, Jackson.

Revolutionary Soldier's Grave:

Abiathar Lincoln. Buried in Chapel Cemetery near Jackson. Grave marked by Chapter, June 17, 1916.

Papers:

"Early History of Jackson," written by Mrs. John C. Smith; 20 copies typewritten for 3rd and 4th grades of city schools.

Assisted city teachers with data for Historical Pageant (Early History of Jackson) June, 1916.

Have incorporated Seal of City of Jackson in Chapter Year-Book, 1916-1917.

## KALAMAZOO COUNTY

Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Chapter, Kalamazoo.

Sites Marked:

Old Territorial Trail, June 14, 1916;

Old Trading Post, used in 1823, June 14, 1916;

Contributed to Endowment Fund, Old Pohick Church, Va.;

Contributed to Michigan Panel, Washington Chapel, Valley Forge.

## KENT COUNTY

Sophie de Marsac Campau Chapter, Grand Rapids.

Revolutionary Soldiers' Daughters:

Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Frank Russell is an active member of the Chapter.

Mrs. Euphrasia Smith Grainger died Jan. 8, 1917.

Papers

"History of the Grand Rapids Civic Flag," by Mrs. James H. Campbell.

Three water color copies of the Michigan Coat-of-arms presented three High Schools.

Prizes given two pupils, one in each High School for best year's work in U. S. history.

## LENAWEE COUNTY

Lucy Wolcott Barnum Chapter, Adrian.

Contributed to Michigan Panel, Washington Chapel, Valley Forge.

Has honor of having a Revolutionary Soldier's Daughter serve as chaplain of the chapter, Mrs. Emeline Buker Palmer. Mrs. Palmer was one of the Honor Guests of the State Conference of the Michigan Daughters in Ann Arbor, Oct. 17-19, 1916.

## LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Philip Livingston Chapter, Howell.

Site Marked:

First school house, Howell, marked by chapter June 14, 1916.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest;

Contributed to Michigan Panel, Washington Chapel, Valley Forge;

Celebrated Michigan's Birthday.

## MACOMB COUNTY

Alexander Macomb Chapter, Mount Clemens.

"Early History of Mount Clemens," compiled by Mrs. Oscar C. Lungershausen.

Celebrated Michigan's Birthday.

## MANISTEE COUNTY

Ruth Sayre Chapter, Manistee.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest;

Result, Miss Mabel Potter received first Prize for cities of over 10,000 inhabitants.

## MARQUETTE COUNTY

Marquette Chapter, Marquette.

Has had the honor of having a Daughter of a Revolutionary Soldier, Mrs. Sarah Van Eps Harvey, a member of the Chapter. Mrs. Harvey died Nov. 22, 1916.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.



## MECOSTA COUNTY

Big Rapids Chapter, Big Rapids.

Site marked: first house in Big Rapids, 1854.

Marked by Chapter June 14, 1916.

## MUSKEGON COUNTY

Muskegon Chapter, Muskegon.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.

## OAKLAND COUNTY

General Richardson Chapter, Pontiac.

Site marked:

First Dwelling House in Pontiac, occupied by Revolutionary Soldier, Joseph Todd, Orrison Allen, and William Lester with their families in 1819.

Marked by Chapter, Aug. 21, 1916.

Revolutionary Soldier's Grave:

Solomon Jones. Buried in Davisburg Cemetery.

Grave marked by Chapter July 6, 1916.

Derrick Hulick, Lakeville. Grave marked Sept. 16, 1916, by Chapter.

Through the efforts of Mrs. Lilian Drake Avery, State Historian, D. A. R., a picture of Solomon Jones has been discovered.

Papers:

Two volumes of Oakland County Marriage Records copied and typewritten; compiled by Mrs. E. V. Howlett.

Historical Pageant, Aug. 21, 1916. Assisted in Oakland County Centennial.

## SAGINAW COUNTY

Saginaw Chapter, Saginaw.

Sites Marked:

Site where Gen. Lewis Cass on Sept. 29th, 1819, signed a treaty with Chippewa Indians of Saginaw, by which they ceded the largest part of their lands situated in northwestern Michigan to the United States Government.

Fort Saginaw, built in 1822.

These two sites were marked Sept. 24, 1916, by the Saginaw Chapter, D. A. R. and Saginaw Federation of Women's Clubs.

Celebrated Michigan's Birthday.

Contributed to Endowment Fund, Old Pohick Church, Va.

#### SHIAWASSEE COUNTY

Shiawassee Chapter, Owosso.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest;

Celebrated Michigan's Birthday by address on "Early Michigan History," by Mrs. Marie B. Ferrey.

#### ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Ot-si-ke-ta Chapter, St. Clair.

Revolutionary Soldier's Grave:

Reuben Smith, buried in discarded Burial Ground near Marine City. Grave marked by Chapter, Aug. 23, 1915.

#### ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

Abiel Fellows Chapter, Three Rivers.

Marked Revolutionary Soldier's Grave:

Mark Watkins, enlisted Jan. 1, 1776, in his father's Co. Buried in Leonidas, Michigan. Grave marked by Chapter, Sept. 23, 1916.

Revolutionary Soldier's Daughter's Grave:

Mrs. Caroline Fellows Bowman Winn. Daughter of Col. Abiel Fellows. Buried in John H. Bowman Pioneer Cemetery, Three Rivers. Grave marked by Chapter Oct. 16, 1915.

Historical Pageant, "Coming of the Pioneers," Oct. 16, 1915.

Papers: "Overland to Michigan 1847," by Miss Sue I. Silliman.

"One hundred First Wills."

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.

Result: Leroy Johnson received first Prize for cities under 10,000.

## WASHTENAW COUNTY

Sarah Caswell Angell Chapter, Ann Arbor.

## Papers:

Papers relating to early history of Ann Arbor found.

"Revolutionary Soldiers and their Real Daughters in Michigan," written by Mrs. William H. Wait.

Contributed to Endowment Fund, Old Pohick Church, Va., and to Michigan Panel, Washington Chapel, Valley Forge.

## WAYNE COUNTY

Louisa St. Clair Chapter, Detroit.

## Revolutionary Soldiers' Graves:

Judge James Witherell, Adjutant 11th Mass. Regiment, Buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Detroit.

Col. John F. Hamtramck, Capt. 5th New York. Buried in Mt. Elliott Cemetery, Detroit.

John Trumbull, buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Detroit.

These graves were marked by chapter, June 14, 1916.

Papers: Buffalo newspaper published in 1812 found.

Fostered State Prize Essay Contest.

Contributed to Michigan Panel, Washington Chapel, Valley Forge.

## SUMMARY, 1915-1916.

Fifteen Revolutionary Soldier's Graves marked.

Three Revolutionary Soldier's Daughters' Graves marked.

Twelve Historical sites marked.

Two Histories of Michigan Towns, and three Historical Papers written.

One Genealogical Pamphlet compiled and published.

2300 First marriage records compiled.

Placed eighty-nine volumes of Michigan history and biography on Michigan's shelves, Library, Memorial Continental Hall, Washington, D. C.

Many chapters fostered State Prize Essay Contest in Michigan History; and contributed to endowment fund of old Pohick Church, and Michigan Panel, Washington Chapel, Valley Forge.

—Reported by Mrs. William Henry Wait, State Regent.

## A LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UPPER PENINSULA

(BY ALVAH L. SAWYER)

About two years ago, in behalf of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society and as its organizing representative for the Upper Peninsula, I addressed the people upon the importance of early action in organizing a Historical Society in every community where such a society does not already exist. I am pleased to say that considerable progress has been made. Still, there remains so much to be done, of such great importance, that I will be pardoned for calling the subject to your attention again.

The State Pioneer and Historical Society has been engaged in this work since 1874. It has done much to record and preserve papers and objects of historic interest in the Lower Peninsula. Since the creation of the State Historical Commission, nearly four years ago, much further progress has been made in the historical work of the State.

At this date, I am glad to say, the joint work of the Commission and the Society has been so organized and harmonized as to make each a powerful auxiliary to the other, and attention is being turned to the Upper Peninsula. Duplication of work is avoided. The combined efforts of both organizations are concentrated. Harmony and efficiency in the work is still further fostered by making up the personnel of the Commission from the members of the Board of Trustees of the Society. One Secretary is elected for both, and in the interest of the Upper Peninsula it is worthy of mention that the present Secretary, Dr. George N. Fuller, was formerly a teacher in the schools of the Peninsula.

As to the local historical societies in the Upper Peninsula, a good start has been made. The Copper Country has a very fine and strong Society. Its work includes four counties, and very much has already been done to gather and preserve historical data and relics of historic interest.

In Marquette County provision for promoting historical work has been made by the Board of Supervisors. The deep interest displayed by the people there promises the early organization of a Marquette County Historical Society.

Delta County has within the last year organized and developed a strong local Society. To its promoters and workers is due, in very large measure, the securing of the first Upper Peninsula meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, which was held at Escanaba in co-operation with the local society there in October, 1916. This meeting was attended by citizens from nearly every part of the Peninsula, and by the President, Secretary and other members of the State Society and Commission, including Governor Ferris, who held a prominent place upon the program. The very large attendance and the fine interest exhibited in the work gave pleasing testimony to the good judgment of the State Society in inaugurating a system of autumnal or summer meetings, which it is expected will be continued, annually, in the Upper Peninsula.

A two-fold benefit was derived from this first autumnal meeting. In addition to the pleasure which the occasion afforded socially, it served to impress upon our citizens the importance of this work to our Peninsula. It also served to impress upon the officers and others in attendance from the Lower Peninsula the great field for this work in this Peninsula, as well as our rapidly developing resources. This last fact, aside from its historical aspect, is of large and vital interest to us; because, as is very obvious, the Upper Peninsula is not sufficiently made known to the people outside of the Peninsula to be appreciated at its true worth.

In my former communication, I earnestly urged the organizing of a local historical society in every community. It is specially desirable that county societies be at once organized. Any person can initiate the work, and anyone who is willing to do so can by addressing the Secretary of the Commission at Lansing receive helpful information on the subject. The writer also will be pleased to lend his assistance.

The older settlements should act without delay. The danger of losing important information that cannot later be obtained is

imminent. This is especially true of facts possessed alone by the old settlers. Also, the more recently developed communities should not delay; because, they can now record for future use with greater accuracy facts now within their knowledge, or within easy reach, the real truth of which might be lost by delay.

You will pardon me for again suggesting the advisability of preserving, through local societies, photographs of natural scenery and of pioneers as well as narrative pioneer descriptions of the early life of the locality. Indian records, songs and trophies should be preserved also. Local museums for preserving objects of local historic value might be organized by local historical societies in connection with public libraries.

In closing, I trust the people of this Peninsula will pardon my effort to impress upon their minds again the very great importance of this work. We owe it to the pioneers of this locality, to ourselves if we would be considered their worthy successors, and to the Peninsula, to put this section of the country distinctly upon the map as an important integral part of the State; and I know of no better way than by extending the State Historical Society's work to every section of this Peninsula.

To the Boards of Supervisors in the Peninsula who have not already taken action, permit me to urge that this historical work is highly worthy of promotion from a purely economic standpoint.

The newspapers of our Peninsula are recognized as one of the most progressive elements in our development, and I request of them that this historical work be given its due share of their support.

I shall be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in forming local historical societies, and to do whatever I can to aid them; also to receive reports of all new Societies organized, in order that I may make our Peninsula's report properly for publication by the State.

ALVAH L. SAWYER,

Vice President,

MICHIGAN PIONEER & HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Menominee, Michigan.

# HISTORICAL MATERIALS OWNED BY THE KEWEENAW HISTORICAL SOCIETY, HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN

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## MAPS

- Map of proposed railroad from the copper and iron mining districts of Lake Superior.
- Map of a portion of the Copper District, Lake Superior, Mich., by Geo. D. Bolton. 1873.
- Plat of the village of Huron, Houghton Co. 1862.
- Plat of the village of Houghton—very early.
- Bird's eye view of Houghton. 1872.
- Map of Copper District, Lake Superior. 1873.
- Panoramic view of the Keweenaw Peninsula, the great copper country of Northern Michigan. 1913.
- Maps, etc., of the mineral region of Lake Superior. N. Y. 1846.
- Map of mining district, Portage Lake. n. d.
- Topographical map of the Portage Lake mining district. 1888.
- Map of that part of the mineral lands adjacent to Lake Superior ceded to the U. S. by the treaty of 1842 with the Chippewas.
- A map showing the route of the proposed railroad from the copper and iron mining district of Lake Superior to connect the rail-

- roads built or being constructed in the state of Wisconsin. N. Y. 1855.
- Map of copper mines in Ontonagon County.
- Geological map of Trap Range of Keweenaw Point, Lake Superior. 1863.
- Map of the surface formations of the Northern Peninsula of Michigan.
- Map of the Ontonagon copper and silver region and the Gogebic iron region showing location of the mines, etc. 1900.
- Copper mines in Ontonagon County, between the Ontonagon and Fire-Steel rivers. 1887.
- Map of sections of workings on the north lode of the Minesota mine.
- Map of the Minesota mine.
- Map of Wayne County, Mich., showing hard rock geology and artesian well conditions. 1915 (?)
- Meteorological chart of the Great Lakes.
- Sectional map of the surveyed portion of Minnesota and the Northwestern part of Wisconsin.
- Railroad map of Michigan. 1914.
- Geological maps of the iron range. Michigan Geological and Biological Survey.

## MUSEUM ARTICLES

- Bridge check for old Portage Lake bridge.
- Axe used by Hudson Bay Company.
- Belt worn by Col. William Wright during the Civil War.
- Old money—Two \$10 bills; one \$5 bill; one \$2 bill; two \$1 bills.
- Confederate money (8 pieces) \$110.
- Ten dollar note (emergency money) Central Mining Company.
- Five dollar draft issued by Collins Iron Company, 1872.
- Brass kettle from Assinins—Catholic mission—95 years old.
- Iron winze kettle from old Cliff Mine. 1850 or earlier.
- Indian stone hammer (grooved).
- Piece from quarter-section-bearing tree. U. S. Survey. Houghton County, 1845.

Civil War ballots.

Photo of first page of N. Y. Tribune July 17, 1847, containing articles by Horace Greeley on the Copper Country. 2 ceps.

Photo of the original treaty between the Chippewa Indians and the U. S. 1842, regarding Michigan lands.

Old Catholic Prayer Book.

Draft of Bay Furnace Co. for \$5. 1872.

Old squaw axe of French or English origin from Sault Ste. Marie. 1775.

Native copper implements found near Osceola mine—two fish-hooks, one needle, two arrow points, one spear point, and two unfinished pieces of copper. Probably two or three hundred years old.

Old grate frame and screen from water wheel at Lake Manganese, Copper Harbor.

Wooden step from the original flag staff at Copper Harbor.

Stock certificates of old Lake Superior copper mines.

Section from 6 inch cable used years ago in Cliff Mine.

Section from a log used in the Paull cabin, Ontonagon County in very early day.

Latch and hinges from old guard house at Fort Wilkins, 1844.

Pewter handle latch from Fort Wilkins. 1844.

Original letter written by Douglass Houghton to his father in 1838.

Original letter written by Douglass Houghton to his brother in 1829.

Scrap book containing articles on Douglass Houghton at the time of his death.